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## THE ELECTIONS.

THE Parliament of 1859 has died full of years, if not of honours; and preparations are being made in all parts of the country for the struggle out of which a new Parliament will be born, which will scarcely pass through life so easily as the one that has just expired. We hope, for the credit of electioneering in general, that some sort of animation will be given to the coming contest; but, be it ever so humble, a fight is a fight, and, when a few blows have been exchanged and the combatants have become heated, we shall perhaps discover what particular questions separate the contending parties. Beyond the one obvious aim of all candidates—the honour and pleasure of possessing a seat in Parliament—it is, in many cases, difficult to tell, from the addresses that have hitherto been issued, what the so-called Liberals desire that the so-called Conservatives do not also wish for. In the first place, each party desires to get into power, just as each candidate wishes above all things to be returned to the House of Commons. What they mean to do when they get there is quite a different question, and one to which very few plain answers have been given, except by the extreme men on both sides. A few

thoroughgoing Tories declare themselves opposed to all change in the present mode of representation, thus going beyond their more prudent chiefs, who knew that by adopting such an ultra tone as this they would exclude themselves from office for ever. On the other hand, Mr. Bright, instead of fencing with the Reform question, after the manner of the great majority of the Liberal candidates, has issued a furious address, in which he accuses the Government and the Parliament which has supported it of nothing less than "treachery" in not having carried a comprehensive measure of reform long since. "The Administration," he says, "which, in 1859, climbed into office under pretence of its devotion to the question of Parliamentary reform, has violated its solemn pledges. Its chiefs have purposely betrayed the cause they undertook to defend, and the less eminent members of it have tamely acquiesced in that betrayal. The Ministry have for six years held office, which, but for promises they made and which they have broken, they could not have obtained possession of even for a day. No Parliament fairly elected by the nation," continues Mr. Bright, "would have so treated its constituents, and no Administration so treacherous to its

professed principles would have escaped instant punishment from a Parliament honestly representing the people."

Here Mr. Bright seems to us to prove too much. If the Government did wrong in not passing a reform bill, it was for the Parliament to keep it to its work. If the Parliament was neglectful of its duty in that respect, the constituencies might surely have spoken out on the subject.

The truth is that there has been a general apathy on the subject of Parliamentary reform, which may be explained, in a great measure, by the course of events in America, and to some extent, also, by the manner in which the attention of the House of Commons was taken up, for several Sessions, by foreign questions. The breaking out of civil war in America, and the species of anarchy which the unexpected event appeared to have caused in the Northern States, undoubtedly produced a conviction among a large portion of the Liberal party in England that democratic institutions had been put on their trial and had broken down. It may have been hasty to form such an opinion, as it is also hasty to abandon it now, merely because the American Government meets no longer with armed opposition; but the opinion was largely enter-



SCENE FROM "THE SELF; OR, LOVE LEVELS ALL," AT THE OLYMPIC THEATRE.—SEE "THEATRICAL LOUNGER," PAGE 11



tained in England, and it caused many Reformers to pause and reflect whether it might not be possible, after all, to rest government upon too wide a basis. In the meanwhile the question of reform was allowed to sleep, or, at least, to dose. An energetic man, like Mr. Baines, would try to wake it up from time to time, but without success. Then, in 1863, there was some chance of our "drifting into war" on the Polish question. In 1864 there was a similar hazard in respect to the affairs of Denmark. In 1865 it was too late to do anything except ask why nothing had been done before; and this seems to be the important business which now occupies Mr. Bright, who, by-the-way, if he had thought fit, might himself have brought in a reform bill.

It is quite true that Lord Palmerston's Government was pledged, when it first took office, to a measure of Parliamentary reform. But every Government, since 1852, has been pledged in a similar manner, and four Administrations, in succession, have gone so far as to introduce the subject into the speech from the Throne. The great fault of Lord Palmerston's Government consists in this, that, having come into power promising, in accordance with the general wish of the electoral body, to bring in a reform bill, it afterwards, finding that the country was careless about the matter, became also careless.

Even now we only hear in a very few places of any really enthusiastic cry for Parliamentary reform being raised. The Liberal candidates, for the most part, address the electors in terms of remarkable vagueness. They are all in favour of Reform as a general question, and as if for the mere sake of reforming, but very few indeed are ready to pledge themselves to any definite measure. Most of the Liberal candidates, too, agree in professing confidence in Lord Palmerston's Government, though the extreme section, of course, adopt the views of Mr. Bright, who regards Lord Palmerston as a Tory in Liberal clothing. In fact, Lord Palmerston is a Whig, and something less. He is a Tory in the eyes of Radicals, but not quite a Radical in the eyes of Tories; and it is precisely because he shows no sort of anxiety to bring in a reform bill that a certain number of Conservatives do not mind supporting him. He, indeed, does their work far more effectually than they could do it themselves. Let a Conservative Cabinet come into power and declare itself against Reform, or in favour only of "lateral Reform," and it would be hurled from office in no time. Lord Palmerston, however, has been able to retain power for more than six years—during seven Sessions—pledged to a measure of reform, but taking care all the time not to move one step in the way of redeeming his pledges. An earnest, uncompromising Reformer like Mr. Bright is naturally indignant at such conduct as this; but the great majority of the Liberal candidates seem quite ready to overlook all Lord Palmerston's shortcomings, convinced, no doubt, that, as soon as he is really wanted to introduce a reform bill, he will do so.

But, although Lord Palmerston's name is still put forward, it is no secret that the new Parliament will follow a younger and more active leader than Lord Palmerston, if the Liberals continue in office. In the unlikely event of the Conservatives gaining a majority, it will be on Mr. Gladstone that the task will devolve of leading the Opposition. The question, then, to put to Liberal candidates ought to be, not whether they are supporters of Lord Palmerston, but whether they are prepared to support Mr. Gladstone.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

A pamphlet has been issued in Paris and dispatched to each of the Ministers, on the subject of the past and future of Algeria, of which no less a person than the Emperor Napoleon himself is declared to be the author. Only ten copies, it is affirmed, have as yet been printed. The Imperial author, taking into view the many commendable qualities in the character of the natives, considers it the duty of France to conciliate the Arabs and introduce them to the blessings of a higher civilisation and a better life. Altogether, the views propounded in this brochure are of that extended and enlightened character which usually distinguishes the utterances of the Emperor when treating kindred questions.

### ITALY.

The Naples papers continue to be full of somewhat vague reports regarding the brigand Giardullo, recently arrested, and the revelations which are made by him. These revelations are reported to implicate many persons hitherto deemed honourable and trustworthy, but whom Giardullo now accuses of having been the patrons and promoters of brigandage. The papers, however, do not publish any names, rightly thinking that an impeachment by a captured assassin is not the kind of evidence to be accepted without substantial corroboration.

### AUSTRIA.

The Ministerial arrangements were still incomplete at the date of our latest advices from Vienna. A correspondent, writing on the 29th ult., gives the following explanation of the change of Ministry:—

On his return from Pesth the Emperor gave one of the members of his Cabinet to understand that he intended to put an end to the provisional state of things in Hungary, and to make another effort to come to an understanding with the legal representatives of the Hungarian nation. The Minister in question communicated to his colleagues the intentions of the Sovereign, and at the same time urged them to refrain from taking any steps that could tend to efface the favourable impression which the Emperor's visit to the Hungarian capital had produced. Though the Archduke Reigler and M. von Schmerling, who had disapproved his Majesty's wish to go to Pesth, were determined not to make the concessions required by the Hungarians, they made no comment on the communication made to them. They, however, steadfastly upheld their system of centralisation, and one of their last acts was to forward to Pesth a batch of restrictive ordinances as a supplement to the law for the regulation of the Hungarian press. After the Emperor's return from Hungary a whole week elapsed before he saw the Minister of State, and even the Archduke Reigler's visits to his Imperial cousin were few and far between. On Saturday last the Archduke waited on his Majesty, whom he had not seen for ten days or a fortnight, and when he quitted the palace it was observed that he was much agitated. The Emperor and the President of the Council of Ministers had an unpleasant discussion, which was brought about by his Majesty saying that Mr. George von Mallath was to succeed Count Hermann Zichy as Hungarian Chancellor. On hearing this the Archduke observed that he was surprised his Majesty had not thought fit to consult his official advisers in a matter of such high importance. The reply given was to the effect that the Hungarian question must needs be settled without the intervention of the

Imperial Government, the Diet, the legal representative of the nation, being resolved to treat with no one but its King. On hearing this, the Archduke Reigler, who has always maintained that the unity and indivisibility of the empire must be upheld at all risks, tendered his resignation. It was accepted, but, for some unknown reason, his Imperial Highness did not at once let M. von Schmerling know what had occurred. In the morning of Tuesday, the 27th, Count Nadassy, the Transylvanian Chancellor, and Count Hermann Zichy, the Hungarian Chancellor, were dismissed, and on the same day all the members of the Cabinet, with the exception of Count Mensdorff, Count Maurice Esterhazy, Baron Burger, and M. von Mazuranitzsch, the Croatian Chancellor, tendered their resignation.

### EGYPT.

The panic at Alexandria caused by the ravages of cholera is described as intense. The offices of the steam-boat company are literally besieged by terror-stricken crowds, eager to fly from the dreaded danger. The Viceroy himself has set a not very heroic example by leaving Egypt at the very first appearance of the pestilence.

### THE UNITED STATES.

Our news from New York extends to the 24th ult. Galveston, Texas, the last seaport held by the Confederates, was surrendered to General E. J. Davis by Kirby Smith on the 5th. In consequence the President had issued a proclamation raising the blockade established by Mr. Lincoln in 1861, and notifying that all ports west of the Mississippi would be opened on the 1st inst. to foreign and domestic commerce upon the terms of his proclamation of the 22nd of May last. The Federal military and naval forces will, however, retain possession of those ports until the civil authority shall be completely restored.

The President had appointed James Johnson Provisional Governor of Georgia, A. J. Hamilton Provisional Governor of Texas, and Judge Lewis E. Parsons Provisional Governor of Alabama, with powers to effect conventional reform and a conventional revision of the Constitutions of those States, and restore them to the Union under the same terms as North Carolina and Mississippi.

The Legislature of Eastern Virginia had assembled at Richmond in compliance with the call of Governor Pierpont. The Governor in his message reviews the effect of the war upon Virginia, stating that her system of labour has been swept away. Her once flourishing and beautiful cities are now stripped of their ornaments and their manufactories, warehouses and mansions left heaps of ashes, whole agricultural districts, once the happy homes of her citizens, are now desolate wastes, covered with their graves. Peace, however, is restored, and the time arrived for the restoration of the State to her former relations with the Union. He recommends the repeal of the article of the new State Constitution which deprives of the rights of citizenship those who have in any way aided the rebellion, as he believes nineteen twentieths of the people come under its ban, and urges that measures be immediately taken for an election throughout the State of representatives to both the State and Federal Legislatures.

Mr. Seward had informed the Navy Department that he had been officially notified of the revocation by Great Britain and France of the concession of belligerent rights to the Confederates, and of the removal by France of all restrictions on naval intercourse between that country and the United States. In consequence of the continued twenty-four hours' restriction upon Federal war-vessels visiting British ports, he suggested that the customary courtesies from such vessels to those of Great Britain be withheld.

The accounts of the destitution of the people in the regions devastated by Sherman continue. General Wilson reports that upwards of 30,000 of the inhabitants of ten counties around Atlanta, Georgia, must starve unless fed by the Government. General Thomas had already distributed 5000 bushels of corn to families in the northern parts of that State. In the vicinity of Columbia, South Carolina, 10,000 persons were entirely dependent upon the Government rations for daily subsistence, while bands of armed ruffians wander through the country plundering all who are unprotected.

General Breckenridge, the Confederate Colonel Taylor, and Captain Wilson, aide-de-camp to President Davis, have arrived at Havannah. They crossed from Florida to Cardenas in a ship's yawl, narrowly escaping capture by a Federal cruiser. General Slaughter had also reached Havannah in a Mexican steamer. The Confederate Secretary Trenholm had been arrested at Columbia, South Carolina, and was en route for Fortress Monroe. The New York Times states that he had petitioned the President for pardon. Mr. Edmund Ruffin, of Virginia, who fired the first gun of the war, at Fort Sumter, in April, 1861, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head with a musket, at Danville, on the 17th ult. In a letter found among his papers he declared that he could not survive the loss of the liberties of his country.

The examination of the witnesses in the conspiracy trial had been concluded, and the arguments for the defence submitted by the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, counsel for Mrs. Surratt. He denied the jurisdiction of the Court, and cited in his support the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which declares that no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous offence unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land and naval forces, or in the militia when in active service in time of war or public danger. Payne's counsel admits the guilt of his client, but asserts that he was influenced by Booth, and that, as no one injured by him died, he can only be convicted of assault with intent to kill. Booth's brother, Junius Brutus, had been unconditionally released.

Violent encounters between the whites and negroes in Washington continued.

A fight between two regiments of soldiers, in which a large number of citizens joined, had occurred at Staten Island. Firearms were used on both sides, and four persons were killed and upwards of thirty injured. The Lieutenant-Colonel of one of the regiments was mortally wounded by his own soldiers while assisting to restore order.

Great dissatisfaction existed among the troops retained in service in consequence of the delay in receiving their pay. To those at Norfolk, Virginia, six months' wages is due; and General Bartlett's division of the 20th Corps, at Washington, have received nothing for ten months.

A train loaded with soldiers and a freight-train on the Ohio and Mississippi Railway had come into collision at Logossee, Indiana, by which the drivers and stokers of both were killed. While the conductors were disputing as to who was to blame, a third train came along and ran into the soldier-train, killing fifteen men and wounding 150 others. The transport Kentucky, with 1200 paroled Confederate prisoners on board, struck a snag near Shreveport, on Red River, on the 9th ult., and sank in three minutes. Over 200 lives were lost.

### MEXICO.

The news from Mexico is favourable to the new monarchy. The Imperialists had defeated Negretti at Matamoros with great loss, Negretti himself being captured. They had also taken Camarago.

### BRITISH AMERICA.

The New Brunswick House of Assembly has passed a resolution opposing the confederation scheme and favouring the dispatch of delegates to England to counteract the influence of the Canadian delegates.

THE PRICE OF GAS.—A public meeting was held, on Monday, in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall—the Lord Mayor in the chair—to consider the present high price of gas and its bad quality, in the metropolis. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting, and the comparative cheapness of gas in other towns was largely dwelt upon. In the end, resolutions were carried recommending the repeal of the Metropolitan Gas Act of 1860, and that the manufacture of gas should be in the hands of the local authorities.

THE FUSILIERS.—The Fusilier regiments are to be relieved of the unsightly shako, and will have a new head-dress issued to them. The material is lambkin, the colour black, the size something smaller than a hussar busby, and the shape not unlike the bearskin caps of the Guards, but coming, we fancy, rather lower down to the neck. The only ornament will be a grenade in front, upon the ball of which the number of the regiment is to be indicated. Altogether, we think, it will be found a smart, soldier-like looking head-dress; and we may congratulate the regiments—5th, 7th, 21st, 23rd, 87th, 101st, 102nd, and 103rd—to which it is about to be issued.

## THE GENERAL ELECTION.

In most of the boroughs of England and Wales the nominations will take place on Tuesday next, and none will be later than the day following. In the city of London the nominations may take place as early as Monday, as the writ in its case reaches the returning officer in such a manner that the day of issue may be reckoned as one of the four days fixed by the statute.

### MODE OF RECEPTION AND DISPATCH OF THE WRITS AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

Upon every occasion of a general election the reception and dispatch of the several writs to the counties, cities, and boroughs throughout the United Kingdom is regarded by the Post Office authorities as an event of the greatest importance, requiring no small amount of additional supervision and care, as the mis-sending of any one of them might lead to most serious consequences. In all, when the House of Commons is quite filled up (which is not the case at present, there being two members short) there are 658 writs received—namely, of English county members, 143; the Universities, 4; cities and boroughs, 324; Welsh county members, 15; cities and boroughs in Wales, 14; Scotch county members, 30; cities and boroughs, 23; Irish county members, 64; University, 2; cities and boroughs in Ireland, 39; total, 658. When the writs are prepared they are conveyed from the Crown Office at the Treasury, by special messengers, to the Post Office, and, having been duly checked, on receipt in the circulation department, by the controller, the whole of the addresses are minutely examined, so that no mistake may arise from imperfect or erroneous direction. This ordeal having passed, they are carefully sorted and taken to the several "roads" or routes the mails travel towards the places for which they are severally intended. At this stage of their progress they are singly placed in the receptacles representing the office of the postmaster of the place, who has to forward them to their special destination as matters of urgent and special duty. Just before the time arrives for "making up" the mail bags at the chief office, in St. Martin's-le-Grand, the presiding officers on duty witness the act of the consigning of the writs to the several mail-bags, and also see that each bag is properly tied and sealed before it is placed in the mail-sack and given into the custody of the guard, who is afterwards responsible for its due and faithful delivery to the local postmaster. The writs for the cities and boroughs in England are directed to the several mayors, and those for the counties to the sheriffs, except in a few particular cases. Those for Ireland and Scotland are sent to the principal officers in the several counties and municipalities.

### CITY OF WESTMINSTER.

On Monday night a crowded meeting of Mr. Mill's committee was held at St. James's Hall, at which Mr. Mill attended. Dr. Brewer occupied the chair, and there were present on the platform most of the leading Reformers not only of the city of Westminster but of the metropolis at large. When Mr. Mill made his appearance on the platform he was received with the utmost enthusiasm. After some remarks from the chairman of a complimentary character to the candidate,

Mr. Mill rose to address the meeting, and it was the signal for a renewal of the loud cheers and waving of hats with which he was greeted on coming on the platform. When the enthusiasm had subsided, he said that he was not at all aware when coming to the meeting that he should have to make a speech. He understood that a night had been appointed for the purpose of his publicly addressing the electors, and expected that the present moment would be nothing more than a kind of friendly conversation, so as to afford him an opportunity of giving such information as might be thought desirable, and to enable his friends to ask him any questions upon which they wish to be informed; but he was not aware that the meeting would assume the public form which the present seemed to have. He therefore hoped they would take into consideration his want of preparation and excuse any imperfections which must necessarily arise from being taken unawares ("Hear, hear!" and cheers). He feared that the chairman had slightly exaggerated in his estimation of him, and did not know how it was possible for him to fulfil the high expectations which the chairman's speech must have raised. For the support which he had received, the friendly feelings and opinions which had been so unanimously extended towards him throughout the whole of this contest, the mere fact of the number of distinguished persons consenting to allow their names to be placed on the committee—for all these things he could not be too thankful. He did not look upon it in the light of a favour, but as a high honour, to be selected by such a body of gentlemen as a candidate for the important post of representing Westminster—perhaps the most important position which a member of the House of Commons could hold. A higher honour he could hardly conceive. It was an onerous duty which they were desirous of conferring upon him; and he looked upon it as a very great honour that they considered him capable of fulfilling that duty. He feared, however, that, whilst accepting that honour, he should fall below the expectations they had entertained of him. (Cries of "No!") No one could feel more strongly than he did the importance of that part of the contest with which he had nothing to do individually, but which was a most important part of the election. But he was obliged to say that the chairman had done him too much honour in giving him all the credit of the manner in which, from the outset, they had conducted this election. If they were victorious, the credit would be theirs. It was very easy for him to say this thing and that about the conduct of elections, but the credit of carrying those principles out was due to them. He had not undertaken the expenses which were ordinarily borne by candidates, but which never ought ("Hear, hear!" and cheers). Those of the expenses which were legitimate the electors had agreed to bear. They had not only done this, but they had to bear up against the candidature that was going on on the old, the basest of principles—the most lavish of expenditure for undue purposes. They had to raise a spirit amongst the constituency above this sort of thing, and he was glad to find that they were in a fair way of doing so. Therefore the price was theirs, not his. As he had said, it was easy for him to lay down that a candidate ought not to be at the expense. It cost him little in saying it, but it would cost them much in carrying it out, and the honour would be therefore entirely on their side. He could not help thanking the chairman for having paid the tribute he did to one to whom, in his early life, he owed everything—to his father—a man who had done more for the people than ever he (the speaker) did, because he lived at a time when there were few to do it, and when the opinions of even the most moderate Liberalism stood most seriously in the way of a man's advancement in life; but in spite of all the strong feeling that was arrayed against him, he never compromised one of those principles which he held, and constantly wrote in favour of those principles which embraced the most valuable interests of the country; and nothing, he felt, that he could do at the present day could possibly deserve a thousandth part of that which was deserved by him who had gone before him. If there ever was a time when a person might be allowed to speak of himself it was on such an occasion as the present, and he thought he could not better recommend himself than by saying that he had sat by the cradle of all the great political reformers of this generation, and not alone sat by them, but when hardly out of his teens wrote for them. Mr. Mill then referred to some of the principles which with his name is familiar, pointing out that upon the light of "crotchets," had since resolved themselves into realities, and suggesting the possibility that what have been characterised as further "crotchets" of his, may in the course of some short time also turn out truths, and proceeded to say that he took it for granted that, all present being members of his committee had a sufficient idea of his political principles, but if any wished to have further information on any point he would be most happy to give it. (Cheers.)

Mr. Probyn said that a most absurd and ridiculous rumour had been mentioned to him. It was that Mr. John Stuart Mill intended to retire. He (Mr. Probyn), in the name of Mr. Mill's supporters, begged leave to say that Mr. John Stuart Mill would not retire from the contest till next Tuesday afternoon, when he would, by the vote of the electors, be at the head of the poll. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Mill, in answer to a question, approved generally of the principle of non-intervention, but thought there were cases in which intervention in the affairs of other countries might very judiciously be exercised.

The Chairman asked were there any other persons desirous of asking questions, and the inquiry was received with cries of "We are satisfied," and cheers.

Mr. Mill, in reply to some further questions which were introduced, declared himself in favour of a separation of Church and State, and that he would vote against the Maynooth grant as soon as there was no endowment granted to any other religious institution; but as long as the Irish Church establishment existed, he thought it would be most unjust to take away the small pittance which the Irish people now had for their college.

One of the finest meetings which have been seen during the election proceedings was held, on Wednesday evening, at St. Martin's Hall, to hear Mr. J. S. Mill. Dr. Lankester presided. Mr. Mill delivered a speech, of which it is enough to say that it was a fair, outspoken declaration of opinion, open to no misconception or mistake. The meeting was subsequently addressed by several eminent men, and closed with a vote of confidence in Mr. Mill as a candidate.



Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster, has addressed the following letter to a member of Mr. Mill's committee:—

Deanery, Westminster, June 28.

Sir,—I have been prevented by constant engagements from returning an earlier answer to your letter. I have intimated already to the committee that it is not my intention to take any active part in the Westminster election beyond giving my support to Mr. Mill, on account of his distinguished abilities and the credit which the Westminster electors will gain by electing such a person under the conditions in which he has been proposed to them. But I feel that I ought not, in the position which I hold in the Church in Westminster, to decline an answer to the appeal which you have made to me on the question of the charge brought against Mr. Mill, founded on the passage quoted from his recent work on philosophy.

I have no hesitation in adding my testimony to that of the eminent ecclesiastics who have already expressed their admiration of this passage. So far from justifying in the least degree the charge of Atheism, it contains a forcible exposition of the foundation of all true religion. The substance of that passage is—that God is good, and that we are called upon to worship Him because of His goodness. I need hardly point out to you that this is the doctrine of the Old Testament as expressed in the words, "Be ye holy, for I am holy;" and still more strongly of the New Testament, "God is love. We love Him because He first loved us."

There are other passages in Mr. Mill's writing to which I could refer you as containing instructive illustrations of the doctrines and practices recommended in the Bible. But this is one which every Christian heart can appreciate, as setting forth the best "reason for the hope that is in us"—for "purifying ourselves, even as He is pure."

The Rev. Professor Kingsley has also made known his opinion of the tendency of Mr. Mill's teaching in the following letter, likewise addressed to a member of the honourable candidate's committee:—

Eversley Rectory, Winchfield, July 2.

Dear Sir,—I have neither knowledge of nor interest with Westminster electors which would enable me to help in what you desire. But in answer to the rest of your letter I am bound to say a few words. I wish to see Mr. J. S. Mill in Parliament because he is one of the few living men whose writings are full of the love of fact, of the intense and diligent search after truth for its own sake at whatever risk and whatever it may prove to be like. I would try to get such a man into Parliament, or any other office of which he was ambitious, whether his practical conclusions or politics agreed with mine or not; for I should be certain that, by mere virtue of his love of truth and fact, he would do good to whatever he touched, and that, if he at the outset made a few practical mistakes, he would be, by the same virtue, the first to discover and rectify them. But of late Mr. J. S. Mill has special claims on me as a clergyman of the Church of England. In cap. v. 11, of his examination of Sir W. Hamilton's "Philosophy" he has vindicated with equal logic and eloquence the ancient orthodox doctrines of theology, properly so called, in words which would to Heaven every Christian priest and preacher would read and lay to heart. I did myself the honour, in a late sermon at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, of quoting two invaluable pages from that chapter. If I omitted the now famous passage (page 103, lines 13 and 14), I did so because it was so solemnly and startlingly true that I should have had to speak of nothing else for the rest of my sermon, had I once awakened my hearers to the new and noble idea. I am proud to add my humble testimony on this matter to those of wiser and better divines than I.

BIRMINGHAM.—MR. BRIGHT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Bright has issued the following address to the electors of Birmingham:—

Gentlemen,—In a few days the Parliament will be dissolved, and you will be required to select representatives for a future House of Commons. I fear the career of the House which is now about to separate is one which has given you much disappointment. The election of 1859 was caused by the question of suffrage extension, and was intended to promote an advance, if not a settlement, of that question. The House which was returned at that election has been disloyal to its pledges, and has neglected its first duty.

The Administration which, in 1859, climbed into office under the pretence of its devotion to the question of Parliamentary Reform has violated its solemn pledges. Its chiefs have purposely betrayed the cause they undertook to defend, and the less eminent members of it have tamely acquiesced in that betrayal. The Ministry have for six years held office, which, but for promises they made and which they have broken, they could not have obtained possession of even for a day. No Parliament fairly elected by the nation would have so treated its constituents, and no Administration so treacherous to its professed principles would have escaped instant punishment from a Parliament honestly representing the people.

If I felt myself in any degree responsible for the conduct of the Parliament and the Administration on this question of reform, I could not without confusion of face render you an account of my stewardship, and I could not hope that you would again select me as one of your representatives. But I am free of the guilt of your betrayal. I have denounced and resisted it to the utmost of my power.

The Parliament is about to expire—the Ministry will soon undergo changes, or will totter on to its fall; but the question of reform still lives, and at this moment, in the eyes of its opponents, takes a more distinct shape than at any other period since the passing of the bill of 1852. I trust the result of the coming general election will show that, notwithstanding the treachery of official statesmen and the indifference of the expiring Parliament, the cause of freedom, based on a true representation of the nation, is advancing with an irresistible force to its final triumph.

If the electors of Birmingham, so honoured by past services in this cause, deem me worthy to speak for them and for it in the coming Parliament, I shall accept the trust with gratitude for the confidence they show me, and with an earnest desire to act worthily in their behalf and in their name.

THE APPROACHING INTERNATIONAL NAVAL REVIEW.—It is probable that the command of the French fleet, which is to meet the English fleet at Plymouth on the 17th inst., will be intrusted either to Admiral Dupuis or to Admiral Poiteau. The former officer commanded the Napoleon during the operations in the Black Sea, and at the time of the Italian war was appointed to the command of the gun-boats on Lake Garda. Admiral Poiteau, C.B., commanded a despatch vessel in the Black Sea, called the "Caton," and served on shore with the French naval brigade before Sebastopol, for which he received the Order of Commander of the Bath. Rear-Admiral Sir Sidney Dacres, K.C.B., is therefore personally acquainted with both the French Admirals. It is said that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be the guest of Admiral Sir Sidney Dacres during the visit of the French fleet.

ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—A serious accident, involving a miraculous escape of the passengers, occurred to the down express-train to Norwich, on the Great Eastern Railway, on Saturday night last. The train was behind time, but had nearly reached Norwich when the engine wheel came upon what seems to have been a loose rail. This threw the leading wheels off the rail; but the train ran on several yards, tearing up the ballast and breaking the sleepers, till it reached a long wooden bridge over a stream, where it was brought to a stand, some of the carriages being then turned over. The bottom of the bridge was knocked out by the plunging, grinding action of the engine, and the passengers were literally suspended over the stream, the carriages being held up only by the strong cross-beams of the bridge. They were speedily extricated from their perilous position with little more injury than a few bruises, but it was long before the line could be restored for the traffic.

THE WONDERFUL SCAMP.—Who has not seen a playbill announcement of "The Wonderful Scamp?" Now, having before us the performances of a wonderful scamp in real life, we are curious to learn whether it tallies with the dramatic representation. The Wonderful Scamp of reality has troops of active, zealous friends. They spring up in precise proportion to his need of them and want of desert. They seem the very growth of his faults. If his conduct had been ten times worse than it was, his advocates and apologists would have been multiplied in the same ratio. The father of the Wonderful Scamp was in the predicament of a besieged place. He was regularly invested, and importunately summoned to surrender. In the month of February, he says, the friends of the Wonderful Scamp surrounded him, and the Wonderful Scamp's wife wrote to him, and used his answer to such purpose as to encourage the hope that the Wonderful Scamp would be reinstated in employment if he could make an arrangement with his creditors; but this came to nothing, and the Wonderful Scamp's father had to tell Mr. Skirrow that he must not mention the subject of the Wonderful Scamp's reinstatement any more. And here we must ask how it is that for the last forty years this name of Skirrow has been of such perpetual recurrence in busybody and very questionable intermeddling? Is there always a good-natured man, after Goldsmith's pattern, of that name? Be that as it may, Skirrow was the staunch friend and advocate of the Wonderful Scamp. But first in devotion was Millar, who told the father it would be cruel and unjust to punish his son, who had not done worse than some others, and who "in the office he held had no opportunity of selling justice, even if he were so minded." Can more than this be said of a Wonderful Scamp—no opportunity even if so minded! Surely, there was a man to be trusted. Mr. Millar's letter is, indeed, an elaborate protest against a judgment of Brutus. If he had prevailed, and induced the father to reinstate his son, the father would at this moment be an utterly disgraced and ruined man. Nothing has saved the father's character but his last inflexible resolution to give no public employment to the unworthy son, notwithstanding the clamorous prayers of his mob of friends, headed by Millar, Skirrow, Harding, and such like. But, before the last firm stand, whenever the father was about to take a right step, which would have rescued his conduct from suspicion, one of these officious friends of his son, the Wonderful Scamp, always interposed to change his resolution or prevent immediate action, and thus compromised the unhappy parent. In Mr. Millar especially the unfortunate father had one of the *pestium genus inimicorum*. He might be introduced into a sensational novel as carrying out a dark scheme of revenge by ruining the father's character in vain endeavours for the redemption of an incorrigibly worthless son.—*Examiner*.

## TRIAL OF DR. PRITCHARD.

ON Monday morning Dr. Edward William Pritchard, of Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow, was placed at the bar of the High Court of Justiciary charged with the murder by poison of his wife and his mother-in-law. The Lord Justice Clerk, with Lord Ardmillan and Lord Jerviswood, occupied the bench. The counsel for the Crown were the Solicitor-General of Scotland, Mr. Gifford, and Mr. Crichton; and for the defence Mr. Clark, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Brand. The prisoner entered the court at ten o'clock. He is a person of middle age, stately and well-built, a little bald, of fair complexion, and with a light sandy beard. He appeared quite calm, and closely watched the proceedings. His brother, Charles Augustus Pritchard, secretary to the Naval Commander at Plymouth, took his seat in the dock with him. It was moved for the prisoner that he should not, in consideration of the prejudice his cause might thereby sustain, be put on trial on both charges at once. The Court refused the motion. There was no objection to the relevancy of the indictment, and the prisoner, on being called to plead, said, audibly, "Not guilty." A jury was then balloted and sworn, and, after some formal evidence,

Catherine Latimer, lately cook in Dr. Pritchard's service, deposed to the circumstances and events of the household up to her leaving it on Saturday last. Mrs. Pritchard's illness began in October with frequent sickness. She went to Edinburgh to visit her mother in November, returning at Christmas. Her mother and Miss Pritchard, who lived with her grandmother in Edinburgh, came with her. Mrs. Pritchard then appeared to be in very good health. She continued so for about a week, but after that became ill again. Witness was to have left the service on the 2nd, but, owing to her mistress's illness, she remained till the 16th of February. One night Mrs. Pritchard exclaimed, "Oh! Catherine, I have lost my senses. I never was so bad as this before." She was seized with cramp about the 14th of February. She was very ill, and called Mary Macleod to fetch Dr. Gairdner. Dr. Pritchard was in the room when another doctor was sent for; he was crying, and witness heard deceased say, "Don't cry, you hypocrite;" or "Don't cry; for, if you do, you are a hypocrite;" and she added that the doctors were all hypocrites together. She told Dr. Gairdner she had chloroform, but she had never said so to witness. Witness continued in the service till Mrs. Taylor was brought back again from Edinburgh. Mrs. Taylor said to witness, "I don't understand her illness. She is one day better and another worse."

Mary Macleod, a girl of seventeen, housemaid at Dr. Pritchard's, was between four and five hours under examination, and gave her evidence with evident reluctance. She generally took up Mrs. Pritchard's dinner and tea, which she sometimes got from Dr. Pritchard as he sat with his family in the dining-room. Mrs. Pritchard often said, "I wonder when this sickness is to stop." When witness was sent for Dr. Gairdner she heard Mrs. Pritchard say, "Don't cry. If you cry you're a hypocrite. It was you that did it." On one occasion Dr. Pritchard sent her up with a bit of cheese, which Mrs. Pritchard tasted, and asked witness to taste. It felt hot, and made witness thirsty. Witness deposed to the sudden illness of Mrs. Taylor. She said she surely had her daughter's complaint. She died about midnight of the day she was taken ill. She was writing letters in the consulting-room at nine o'clock, and was helped up stairs, where she became speedily ill and died. The prisoner had used improper familiarities with witness, and Mrs. Pritchard had seen him kissing her. Witness became with child through him. He said he would put it all right. She had a miscarriage. (Interrogated.—Did he do anything to you to produce miscarriage? But the question was objected to, as forming a separate crime not libelled against the prisoner, and disallowed by the Court.) The connection was continued up to the time Mrs. Pritchard visited Edinburgh, but not after some time before her wife turned ill. He spoke of marriage to witness. He said he would marry her if his wife died before him. He gave witness a ring the year before last; also a brooch the same month his wife died. He gave her photograph in the locket, but witness had since torn it out. Believed prisoner to be in joke when he spoke of marriage.

The trial was resumed on Tuesday morning. The first witness examined was

Mary Paterson, who succeeded Latimer as cook in Pritchard's service. On the 16th of February Mrs. Pritchard was ill, and witness never was up stairs to see her till the night of Mrs. Taylor's illness. Heard Mrs. Pritchard exclaiming, "Mother, won't you speak to me?" and went in and found Mrs. Taylor's body getting cold. She died the same night, and witness dressed the body, which had a pinkish streak on the left side. On the Tuesday before Mrs. Pritchard died witness found a bit of cheese in the pantry, and ate a little bit about the size of a pea. After eating it she felt a burning sensation in the throat, and got sick and vomited. Her sickness continued from morning till night. Next day the prisoner asked witness to make some eggflip for Mrs. Pritchard. The doctor gave her the egg, and while witness was beating it he came once or twice into the pantry, and dropped in what witness took to be pieces of lump sugar. He said he would add the whisky when it came up stairs. On pouring in the water to see if it was hot enough, witness tasted it, and remarked to Mary Macleod it had a horrible taste. She had the same sensations after it as from the cheese, and continued sick until four o'clock next morning. When Mary Macleod came down to bed she told her the mistress was so ill that she would not allow the doctor to leave the room. Witness did not see Mrs. Pritchard till the Friday. She was well at noon, when she saw her drink something from a glass, which the doctor took from her. She became very ill at five, and expired. She was raving about her mother. She asked witness to rub her hands, and was much cramped. She spoke about her children incoherently. About half-past one witness was called out of bed to make a mustard poultice, and about five minutes after was called up stairs. The doctor was in bed with his wife. She touched Mrs. Pritchard and found her cold. The doctor proposed to apply the poultice and to get hot water, saying she was only fainting; but witness said nothing could be done for a dead body. He said, "Come back, come back, my darling Mary Jane; do not leave your dear Edward!" And added, "What a brute! what a heathen! So gentle, so mild." He asked witness to shoot him; and, in answer to her rebuke how he should stand before a righteous God, said, "True, Paterson; you're the wisest and kindest woman I ever saw." Did not tell the doctor she had been sick after eating the cheese, but did so after tasting the eggflip.

Thomas Alexander Connell, student, boarder in Dr. Pritchard's house, stated, in cross-examination, that he had three times been seized with sickness while in the house, and Dr. Pritchard had been attacked in the same way.

Dr. Gairdner and Dr. Paterson spoke to the visits they paid to the deceased ladies and the prescriptions they gave. They minutely described the symptoms. The former thought Mrs. Pritchard was intoxicated, and forbade more stimulants. The latter said he could not banish from his mind that the symptoms betokened antimony, and refused to certify Mrs. Pritchard's death, the case being so sudden and mysterious, referring the registrar to Dr. Pritchard.

Evidence was called to prove the temperate habits of the two ladies, and the Court adjourned till next day.

The Court again met on Wednesday, when

John Campbell, manager of the Apothecaries' Company, Glasgow, deposed that the prisoner bought more chloroform during last year and this than all other customers together. The prisoner was also in the habit of buying unusually large quantities of acetic, tartaric acid, and other poisons.

Professor MacLagan read a report which stated that Mrs. Pritchard's death must be ascribed to the action of antimony, and that, from the extent to which the organs and fluids were impregnated, it must have been taken in repeated doses.

GENERAL TOM THUMB and little party will hold two levees daily at the hall, Westbourne-grove, during the ensuing week.

THE STEAM-SHIP LAFAYETTE, arrived at Brest, has picked up forty-four passengers from the American ship William Wilson, bound from Antwerp for New York, which was burnt at sea. She had 480 passengers on board, but the fate of the remainder is unknown.

THE REVENUE.—The revenue returns for the quarter and year ending June 30 show the revenue for the year was £69,588,756 against £69,592,959 in the previous year. There was thus a decrease of £404,203. The three items on which this decrease arose were customs, £517,000; property tax, £236,000; and miscellaneous, £165,703. In excise there was an increase of £893,000; stamps, £19,000; taxes, £7,000; post-office, £290,000; and Crown lands, £5500. The revenue of the quarter was £17,549,520, against £18,274,000 in the corresponding quarter last year. The decrease on the quarter—£724,480—is thus larger than the whole decrease of the year. Bearing in mind the reductions which have been effected in taxation, the accounts must be regarded as eminently satisfactory.

LIGHTING BOMBAY WITH GAS.—The Bombay Gasworks have been now opened, and the inauguration has been such as to give them the necessary éclat among a population to which gas is a thing unknown, save by name. The works were brilliantly illuminated for a week, and during the first night of the illumination the European and native gentry of the town, to the number of about 500, were entertained at a very sumptuous banquet provided by the company. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay was to have presided, but in his absence from Bombay, and at his suggestion, R. B. Barton, Esq., first acting magistrate of police, fulfilled the duties of chairman. The new illuminator seems to strike the native inhabitants with surprise; they have difficulty in understanding how anything should burn without oil, but there is ample reason to believe that they will not be averse to introducing gas into their houses. There could not be fewer than a thousand people at the gasworks on the first night of the illumination, and the works were visited by large numbers during the remainder of the inauguration week. One night was set apart exclusively to enable the native ladies to visit the works, and it is not the least gratifying that this was done at the suggestion of the native gentlemen themselves.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, accompanied by the Royal family, and attended by the Court, will, it is expected, leave Windsor Castle on Monday next for Osborne. After a short sojourn at the Isle of Wight, the Queen, it is understood, will return to Windsor and then proceed to Coburg to inaugurate the memorial to the late Prince Consort. A trip to Balmoral will most likely be made in the autumn.

THE PRINCE OF WALES presided, on Monday, at the distribution of prizes at Wellington College. A brilliant company had assembled, and the proceedings were of an interesting character. The Prince made a brief speech.

THE NAMES finally chosen for the infant Prince are George Frederick Ernest Albert. His godfathers will be the King of Hanover, the Crown Prince of Denmark, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Leiningen; and his godmothers will be the Queen of Denmark, the Princess Louis of Hesse, and the Duchess of Cambridge.

THE HON. W. COWPER, it is said, is shortly to be raised to the peerage.

LADY DUNCAN and daughter have been received into the Roman Catholic Church.

ROSA BONHEUR has been requested by the Empress of the French to paint a likeness of Gladstone.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE was on fire on Tuesday. The Prince of Wales distinguished himself as a fireman. No great injury was done.

SIR DE LACY EVANS has sent to Mr. Stuart Mill's committee a subscription of £100 towards that gentleman's expenses.

THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ODD FELLOWS from 1852 to 1864 was 133,362.

THE TRIAL OF CONSTANCE KENT will shortly commence. The commission opens at Salisbury on the 19th inst., and the trial will probably come on on the 20th or 21st.

MR. COX, M.P., has abandoned the action for libel which it was lately stated, to the general amusement, he had commenced against the proprietors of *Punch*.

SOME FISHERMEN of Chalais have just captured an enormous shark—a warning to bathers on both the French and English coasts.

THE PROPERTY OF MR. SLIDELL, Confederate commissioner, was sold by public auction at New Orleans on the 7th of June, and fetched very low prices.

PROFESSOR SILVESTER has discovered the proof of Sir Isaac Newton's rule for the discovery of the imaginary roots of Equations, a question which has been the Gordian knot amongst algebraists for the last century and a half.

THE RATIFICATIONS of the commercial treaty between England and the Zollverein have been exchanged at the Foreign Minister's office, Berlin.

THE "PATRONS" of an establishment at Camden Town are informed by placards that it will be closed every Thursday at two o'clock during the months of July and August, "for the recreation of the employed."

MR. ALDERMAN GIBBONS and MR. JAMES FIGGINS have been elected Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by a considerable majority. At the final close of the poll the numbers were:—For Mr. Alderman Gibbons, 886; Mr. Figgins, 777; Mr. Bennett, 581; Mr. Alderman Stone, 84; Mr. Alderman Waterlow, 54.

A WAR OFFICE RETURN shows that in the military districts of Great Britain and Ireland forty-eight acres of garden-ground have been allotted to soldiers and sixty-one acres to individual non-commissioned officers and others.

A MUSICAL CELEBRATION of a singular kind—a fête on the inauguration of a statue to Jenner, of vaccination memory—is to be held at Boulogne next month. M. Elwart has written a choral piece for the occasion, called "A Hymn to Beauty," to be sung by the Orpheonists of that place.

UPWARDS OF 5000 TEMPERANCE PEOPLE assembled in Broadlands Park, the seat of Lord Palmerston, on Coronation Day. No intoxicating drink was sold. The day was spent in innocent amusement, listening to speeches, and wandering amongst the sylvan scenery of the park.

THE REV. D. M. LEMPRIERE and FAMILY were out on a picnic, in Jersey Island, a few days ago, when one of the children wandered too near the edge of a precipice; and Mrs. Lempriere, rushing forward, in her alarm, lost her balance, fell over, and was dashed to pieces.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY have given notice to their servants that the railway-carriages must not be looked at both sides at the same time; and each employé is required to admit, in writing, that he has received the notice.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for the month ending the 31st of May, 1865, exhibit the following result:—1863, for the month, £11,284,289; five months, £50,742,670. 1864, for the month, £14,176,640; five months, £64,069,060. 1865, for the month, £13,194,758; five months, £60,901,676.

M. NADAR, the famous aeronaut, has set out on a new enterprise, in his balloon, "Le Géant." Accompanied by eight fellow-voyagers, he ascended from Lyons, on Sunday evening. The weather was splendid. The balloon took a southerly course.

AN ART-EXHIBITION AT ALTON TOWERS, a seat of the Earl of Shrewsbury, will open in the early part of next month, and continue open for three months. Its object is to obtain funds for the erection of the Wedgwood Memorial, Burslem.

THE LATE MR. RICHARD THORNTON, of Lloyd's, known in the City as "Old Dick Thornton," has left a fortune of £3,000,000, of which £90,000 is bequeathed to the London charities—Christ's Hospital alone getting £15,000. He lived till nearly ninety, and was a steady-going citizen of the old school.

THE MAN WHO FORGED MONEY ORDERS to the amount of £500, and succeeded in obtaining payment for them at various post-offices, has been captured at Dublin, where he was engaged in an attempt to practise similar frauds. His name is Henry Norris.

THE APPEARANCE OF CHOLERA at ALEXANDRIA is attributed to the wretched sanitary condition of the town. Above 700 carcasses of cattle are said to be lying in the Nile Canal area, and the water from this source supplies the inhabitants. The cholera—or, as the Government prefers to call it, cholera—was added to the customary pests, and it is said to have carried off 20,000 people at Mecca and upon Gebel Ararat within the short space of two months. Private accounts place the loss of pilgrim life at 100,000.

AN INQUEST was held, on Monday evening, at the London Hospital respecting the death of a little girl, who was brought in there suffering from the bite of a dog, of which she died, exhibiting all the signs of hydrophobia; and the jury, in addition to their verdict, requested the Coroner to write to the Home Secretary, calling his attention to the danger to which the public are exposed from the imperfect state of the law in respect to these animals.

A FIRE occurred at Marlborough House, on Tuesday, to aid in extinguishing which the Prince of Wales exerted himself with great energy. When the fire was subdued the Prince was so begrimed with smoke as scarcely to be recognisable.

PRINTERS' PENSION, ALMSHOUSE, AND ORPHAN ASYLUM.—This corporation held their anniversary festival in the London Tavern on Wednesday evening. The occasion was celebrated by a dinner, at which the Chancellor of the Exchequer presided. The right hon. gentleman, on his arrival, was received with loud cheers, the entire company rising and remaining standing until he had taken his seat. When the cloth had been removed the chairman proposed the toast of "The Queen," which was drunk with all the honours. The right hon. gentleman next proposed "The Health of the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal family," and in doing so said that, in consequence of his living at a not very great distance from the residence of his Royal Highness, through the medium of a glass he had had an opportunity of witnessing the exertions of the firemen at the fire which had broken out at Marlborough House on Tuesday. Foremost among them was the Prince of Wales. He felt convinced that the courage and pluck shown by his Royal Highness on that occasion would make him stand still higher in the estimation of all Englishmen. Her Majesty had set the most admirable example as a Sovereign, and the Queen was especially happy in having a progeny which seemed disposed to follow her illustrious example. The toast was drunk with three times three. The toast of "The Army and Navy and the Volunteers" was next given, and responded to by Colonel Grindley and Captain Clowes. In proposing "Prosperity to the Printers' Pension and Almshouse and Orphan Asylum," the chairman said that for thirty-seven years they had been a society, now they were a corporation, and they had received a mark of Royal recognition, which was an indication that they had struck their roots wider and deeper, and that they had acquired efficiency and distinction in the direction to which they had directed their efforts. The fact that they had obtained their charter of incorporation should be viewed not so much as a reward for what they had done as an encouragement for future progress. We lived in a time when printing had attained such a magnitude and power over the whole structure of society, and over all the arrangements of life, that what was formerly the property and privilege of the select few was no longer their property and privilege, but was the property and the enjoyment of the many; and from the Palace down to the cottage every man had now a share in the literature of the country. The members of the society in whose behalf the present meeting was held were those who were most instrumental in promoting the beneficial change to which he had alluded, and therefore they deserved the cordial support of the company whom he now addressed. The right hon. gentleman concluded by again urging the claims of the society on the public of this country. Mr. Hodgson, the secretary, announced that a sum of £525 had been subscribed in aid of the charity. The musical arrangements were of a very agreeable character, and Miss Palmer, in obedience to a very general encore, repeated the ballad of "Wapping Old Stairs," which was received with general applause. Mr. Higge efficiently performed the duties of toastmaster.



## THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD-FIELDS.

BALLARAT.

WE have already published some description of these vast plains on the northern shore of Port Phillip Bay, which extend thirty miles from east to west, and twenty-five miles from the mountains to the sea; and our former remarks were accompanied with an engraving representing the marvellous view from Mount Alexander over the expanse of level country, relieved here and there by the rugged eminences of what appear to be extinct volcanoes. A panorama of the whole district may be seen from Mount Aitkin, a lofty volcanic hill rising in the southern skirts of the mountain chain, not very far from Mount Macedon; and to look out from this eminence at sunset is to witness one of the most extraordinary spectacles in the world. The towers of Melbourne can just be de-

scribed on a rise in the plain about twenty-five miles to the south-east; a breathless silence reigns over the desolate expanse, which stretches far and wide, here and there swelling into rocky knolls and chequered with the shadows of passing clouds. In the midst rises Mount Cotterell, sweeping out of the plain with a long low outline, like an ocean wave after a storm. In the middle ground, or near the base of the mountains, several isolated volcanic hills rise out of the plain, and terminate in craggy crests, like those upon the curl of a broken wave. To the west, the expanse is shut in by the bold granitic hills of Station Peak, or Anaki, on crossing which, in a western direction, we come to the confines of another vast plain extending almost without interruption for 200 miles from east to west, commencing near Geelong. From this, too, there rise several hills of the same volcanic character, steep and abrupt on one side, and on the other sweeping down to the more level country, as though they were islands in

some great lonely sea. One of them, however, towers up from the mountain range, instead of from the plain, and has a distinctly marked crater, to show its volcanic origin. This is Mount Boninyong, and close beside it are the great gold-fields of Ballarat. To the north of Mount Boninyong, and almost girt round with rocky granite hills and wooded ranges, is a tract which, from the beauty of the scenery and the luxuriance of the vegetation, might well be called "the garden of Victoria." Numerous dome-shaped lava hills rise, in pairs, out of an undulating, parklike country, to the height of 200 ft. or 300 ft. Destitute of trees and shrubs, but clothed with the richest pasturage, they stand out conspicuous and isolated, and have obtained the characteristic name of "bald hills." Below, the country is finely wooded with clumps and groves, leaving green glades between. The soil, both on plain and hill, is a reddish or chocolate-coloured earth, formed from decomposing lava, fragments of which

are found on the hill-tops, red, cellular, and often curled up, like shards of recent lava. Those who would know what is the general aspect of the gold-fields themselves must imagine extensive ranges of hill and dale—the hills rocky, sterile, abounding with steep slopes, and entirely covered with a dense monotonous forest; the valleys wide as they descend into the lowlands, but contracting to rocky gullies as they wind upwards into the hearts of the mountains. Swelling, rounded hills sometimes flank one side of the valley, in advance of the rocky acclivities of the higher ranges behind; and not unfrequently these lower hills are covered or crested with quartz-gravel, glistening white like chalk. The forest clothes the hills down to the open grassy flats of meadow land which form the bottoms; and through these flats winds the creek or stream, in a sunken channel, now expanding into a broad pool, or "water-hole," and now contracting into a mere brook. Here



THE GOLD-FIELDS OF AUSTRALIA: BALLARAT.

and there rocky headlands or spurs advance from the flanking hills into the flats, forcing the creek to sweep away to the opposite hills, and perhaps crossing its channel as rocky bars. Should the valley be highly auriferous, the rich deposits will generally be found, first, along the rocky bed of the creek, especially where it is crossed by one of these bars; secondly, on the sides and tops of the swelling hills which flank the valley; thirdly, in the "gullies" which branch off from the main valley; and, fourthly, in the alluvial flats, not diffused over their entire area, but following a definite line or band which winds through them in a certain direction, which, however, can only be determined by opening the ground, and is probably in the direction of the original channel of the valley, before the beds of clay and gravel had been deposited. There are vast tracts to which this description is applicable; but the richest are those where gold was first discovered—namely, the valleys of Forest and Fryer's Creeks, Bendigo, and Ballarat; and these still form the great centres of the mining population of Victoria. The Melbourne Argus, at the time of the discovery of gold at Ballarat, said:—"If Fortunatus had thrown the contents of his cap over the lands

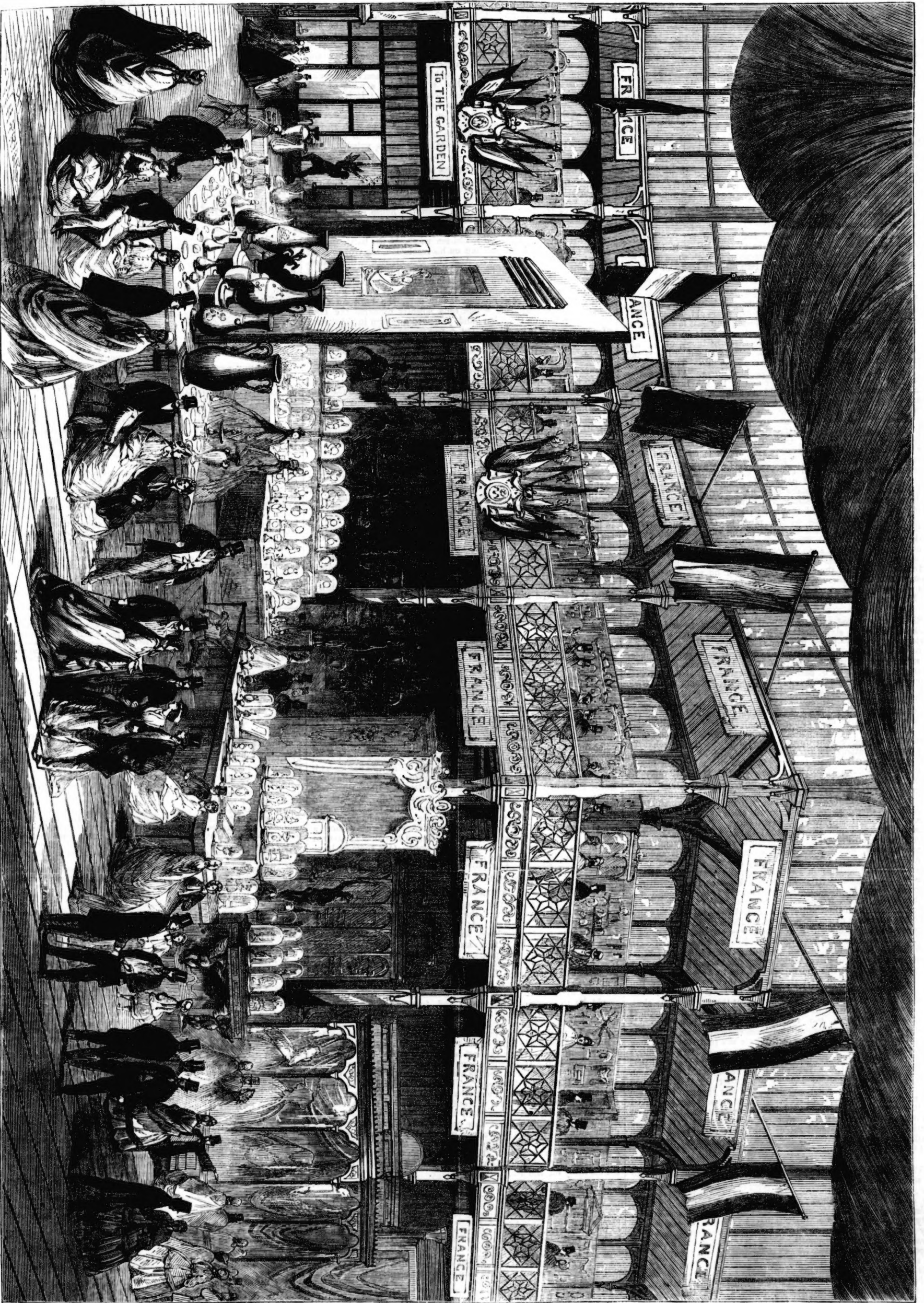
of Ballarat, the yield of riches would not have been increased. Here surface workings are abandoned and the substrata are delved into for riches which will repay a thousandfold the labour expended on them. The yield is immense and seemingly inexhaustible; the gold lies in 'pockets' in the blue slaty clay, and may be picked out with a knife-point. So rich, indeed, is it that many have abandoned cradle-workings for tin dishes, which have yielded two to three ounces in one washing. Many will make fortunes, hundreds a competency, and the vast majority will do well. Nature has spread out a vast magazine of riches for the enterprise of Geelong to stretch forth her hand and take it, and strong and earnestly have her sons set about the pleasant task. I little thought when I first started to Boninyong that it would fall to my lot to chronicle facts which, if embodied in romance or made the elements of a fairy tale, would have excited a smile of incredulity."

These facts were that, at Ballarat, 143 cradles and 567 men had produced in 712 days 4010 ounces, or £12,080 worth of gold. At that time the gold-fields at Ballarat were occupied by white tents, which stood on the

slopes of the hills or in the green flats, and before which at night the watch-fires threw a strange lurid glare on the plain. A motley and lawless assembly soon gathered there; and the Government claims, awkwardly arranged and assorted, afterwards produced a serious riot. Soon, however, regular streets of canvas arose, and not a few "stores," built of timber and roughly-hewn planks, were erected around the Government station. Butchers' shops, doctors' tents, refreshment-booths, aly grog-shops, gold-dealers' shanties, forges, each with its rough sign, a representative flag, made the place strangely picturesque, but yet not a little squalid and irregular in appearance. Now this phase, too, has passed away, and Ballarat is likely to become one of the most important townships in Victoria. Its miners form companies and employ labour and patent machinery, while mining itself has become a recognised, if not an ordinary, branch of industry, yielding average profits or fair wages. To indicate what gold-digging has come to, we cannot do better than refer to the last regular report of the market and operations in this district, as received by the last advices from Victoria:—

"The Ballarat district is little affected by the season, and no difference is to be noticed in the yields of the principal leads in it. The returns obtained by the Band of Hope Company were 1471 oz. for the first week, 591 oz. for the second, 753 oz. 17 dwt. for the third, and 808 oz. 12 dwt. for the fourth week of the month. These variations in the yields were caused by breakages in the machinery and consequent loss of time. The Koh-i-Noor Company obtained 1054 oz. for one fortnight, and 1000 oz. 10 dwt. for the other; and the Great Extended Company 1945 oz. 18 dwt. during the month. The Nelson Company is in good ground again, and getting their old average of about 100 oz. a day, when not prevented by accidental stoppages. Of the other companies, none are getting returns quite equal to these, but some are very near them. The largest nugget of the month was one of nearly 100 oz., found at Jones's Creek, and one of 50 oz. has since been found near Creswick. Three or four have been turned up weighing between 30 oz. and 35 oz. each, and most of these have been taken from the new lead at Gooseberry Hill, near Dunolly, which has been rather prolific in nuggets of medium size."





THE FRENCH COURT IN THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION—SEE PAGE 17.



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 266.

## HOW WE GOT A HOUSE.

WHEN the hand of the clock fronting the chair tells Mr. Speaker that it is four o'clock, he is bound by law, or custom strong as law, to count the members present; and if the tale, when all are told, do not amount to forty, including himself, he must immediately adjourn the House, without question put, to the following sitting day. Now, at the far end of a Session it is sometimes very difficult to get forty members into the house at four o'clock, and this Session it has been more than usually difficult, because so many members are out of town canvassing their constituents and in other ways preparing for the coming fight. On Thursday week there was, too, another difficulty. Sir Charles Wood was to open his Indian Budget, and Sir Charles Wood on Indian finance is always a repulsive rather than an attractive force. There was, then, every reason to fear that it would be impossible to net forty members by four o'clock. But, fortunately, that string failing, we had another to our bow. Her Majesty, by commission, was to summon her faithful Commons to the bar of the Lords to hear her assent given to certain bills, and it is a rule that a message from the Queen to the Lords Commissioners makes a House, albeit there may not be the requisite forty members present; and so it was arranged that Mr. Speaker should be in the house at a quarter, instead of ten minutes, to four, that prayers might be got over by five minutes to four, at which time, instead of four, Black Rod had promised to arrive; and this arrangement was carried out with praiseworthy precision. Before the first ten minutes of the quarter had expired Mr. Speaker had risen from his knees. At five minutes to four Black Rod knocked at the closed door, whereupon Mr. Speaker, though there were not more than a dozen members present, immediately rose and took the chair, and thus by a little judicious manoeuvring we got a House.

## SIR CHARLES WOOD.

Sir Charles Wood is the toughest, most indefatigable, and most active of our public men. He is sixty-five years old, or will be in the course of the year; but, except during the last few weeks, he has shown no signs of failure; and certainly he is an exception to the rule that labour and sorrow are the inheritance of all who enter into the last decade of three score and ten. He is tall, erect, and thin as a lath. No labour conquers him. The weight of all India on his shoulders cannot bow him down. And he swings away, as he walks from Belgrave-square to the India Board in Victoria-street, at a pace that would soon bring to a stand many a man of half the Right Honourable Baronet's age. "Weight against age" is, we believe, the rule of the course; and we would back Sir Charles, when he is well, to beat nine out of ten of all the forty-year old men that we meet in the streets, without adding a pound to their natural weight. But lately Sir Charles's health has given way. What is the matter with him we know not exactly. He seems to have a touch of lumbago, and it was obvious on Thursday night that his talking apparatus was somewhat out of order. He has had annoyances lately. Sir Charles Trevelyan's mistake must have worried him. His compulsory retirement from Halifax, which he has represented thirty-three years, perhaps vexed him more; and it is a common thing with us all for vexations of the mind to throw our physical tackle out of gear. There is, however, we suspect nothing very serious the matter with Sir Charles. He walked with a stick probably for the first time in his life. Now and then, as he swung along, as his manner is, he was suddenly pulled up, as if by a twitch of pain in the lumbar region, and he was a trifle paler than usual. He, however, got through his work reasonably well. He was at the Cabinet meeting on Saturday, and again in the House on Monday.

## HIS SPEECH.

Sir Charles Wood spoke for about an hour, more or less. He spoke in his usual style, neither better nor worse; and what that style is our readers—as we have once or twice described it—must know almost as well as we do; and yet, when we come to think of it, nobody can know what his speaking is like but those who have heard him speak. He is, perhaps, the dreariest speaker that ever attempted to address an assembly of men. He wants not matter. He has plenty to say, and what he has to divulge is important and even interesting, if he could but present it in an attractive or decently suitable garb; but, though he is a scholar (he took a double first at Oxford, remember), and unquestionably an able man, and a good, and on the whole a successful, administrator, he cannot for the life of him tell you what he has to say in attractive or hardly in intelligible diction, unless you keep your mind at a tension which mortal minds can hardly bear. His voice is not particularly good. Good it may be when it leaves his lungs, but, somehow, his words do not get through the orifice of his mouth successfully. Some people are said to speak *ore rotundo*—with round mouth. This is what Sir Charles does not do. His words come to us flattened, somewhat like those of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. But this is not his greatest fault as a speaker. It is his peculiar style that makes it so painful to listen to him and so difficult to travel with him. He is circumlocutory, going round and round and backwards and forwards; now dropping the thread of his discourse to introduce a parenthesis, and perhaps in that another, and then going back to take up the thread. His speeches, though, are not entirely chaotic: there is a plan in the maze, a road through the wilderness of words, if one could but follow it; and when the stenographers, with their admirable art and cunning skill, have, by judicious omissions of surplusage and additions of little connecting links where they are wanted, got them into order, they read very well. The speeches of Sir Charles are like extended ropes with coils in them, and kinks, and all sorts of curious twists and tanglements, and have to be disentangled and pulled straight before they are presentable; and this the reporters have to do, and, if the line parts in the process, to join it; and this they do with wonderful skill. Wonderful men are these gentlemen in the gallery! The public knows not, and never can know, what it owes to their skill. To us, who have to listen to Parliamentary speeches, and, sometimes (alas!) to read them, too, this stenographic art is an insoluble mystery. Reporting a speech of Gladstone, verbatim, is an intelligible task; but how they manage to disentangle and pull straight a long discourse of Sir Charles Wood, and compress one of Darby Griffith's long meandering orations into twenty lines, and yet give us all that the right hon. gentleman really said, we never could understand. The House soon began to dwindle away after Sir Charles Wood began to speak. When he got about half way through there were not more than a dozen members present, and once, when we looked in, there was not a soul on the Opposition benches, and only five on the other side—and of these five three rose together to catch the Speaker's eye. Was the like of that ever seen before, since Parliament was born? Surely the force of eloquence can no further go than this.

## THE HUNT RENEWED.

We foretold last week that the hunt of the Lord Chancellor would be revived this Session, albeit Parliament had but a few days to live; and scarcely was the ink with which we recorded this prophecy dry upon our paper, when Mr. Hunt (appropriate name) put his notice of motion upon the paper for Monday night. It was Friday, early in the evening, when this was done; and then, as our readers may imagine, there was a stir in both the Government and Conservative camps. For this motion must be supported and opposed—supported by the Conservatives, with all their might; and opposed by the Government, with all theirs; for this was to be no child's play. It meant, on the part of the Conservatives, at least the fall of the Lord Chancellor, and, perhaps, of the Government. "Who knows, perhaps even that may be possible." To horse! to horse! then, ye Conservatives. There is damage, if not ruin, to the Government on the cards; and certain damage, and all but certain ruin, to the Lord Chancellor. Here, then, is noble game afoot—no less a personage than a Lord High Chancellor of England. And think, too, who this noble personage is. It is Bethell, the redoubtable Bethell, who on this very spot has so often baffled our lawyers with his

terrible logic and wounded us, all and singular, with his biting sarcasm. The telegraphic people, we suspect, had little rest that night; for, you see, most of the men on both sides were out of town—gone down to their counties and boroughs to watch their interests there. The Scotch and Irish irrecoverably or sixty—were scattered broadcast over the land. Of the fifty gone, most of them; and almost all—all, perhaps, except some two parties, the Conservatives were the best prepared, for they, of course, were in the secret. Moreover, on the other side there were hesitation, doubt, and uncertainty; no cohesion, in fact, as there was in the Opposition ranks. The Conservatives were united to a man; whilst Brand had to deal with a mass of men which was, to use a well-understood term, shaky. "It is a nasty question," was a common expression amongst the Liberals; "especially at this moment." Both parties had, though, their work to do, and it was set about with great zeal and was done with reasonable success; for, whilst on Friday it was difficult to get forty members together, on Monday 344, including tellers, voted.

## THE FIGHT.

And now for the fight. But of the speeches we need not say a word, for, in truth, the struggle was not in debate. The real combatants were the whips and the leaders of the factions; and the battle was to be won or lost by tactics, and not by logic. First, then, let us see how matters stood when the house opened. Mr. Hunt was to move the resolution of which he had given notice; the resolution censuring the Lord Chancellor, and, in some measure, the Government. And this resolution was to be the battle-ground of the night—Mr. Hunt pressing on his resolution, the Government resisting with all its might. And now the great questions were, who will side with Hunt? and who will answer to the trumpet-call of Mr. Brand and come up to the help of the Government? For an hour or two it was thought that the Government would gain the victory; but, to make assurance doubly sure, the Lord Advocate proposed an amendment, which only slightly censured the Lord Chancellor, but, on the other hand, promised a reform in the system of patronage that would prevent a recurrence of irregularity and corruption in the future. This was the first move of the Government; and, on the whole, we must allow that it was an adroit manoeuvre. Some of "our fellows," you see, did not like to let the Chancellor go scot free, and yet hesitated to censure him severely, as Mr. Hunt proposed to do; and, for fear of consequences, trembled at the thought of censuring the Government. "Good," said the Lord Advocate; "then rally round my amendment." This was the situation when the learned Lord sat down; and, for a time, the Conservative army seemed to be likely to be taken on the flank and defeated. All, however, depended upon the success of the Government whips; and, whilst the logical fencing is going on inside, we will step out and see what is doing at the door.

## BRINGING UP THE FORCES.

The whips had, as we have said, been very active since Friday night, and now they were anxiously waiting the result—watching for the men to arrive, and carefully posting them up, man by man. Early in the evening it seemed to us that the Government was getting ahead. Liberals, some from long distances evidently, arrived in larger numbers than the Conservatives, and about eight o'clock Government prospects seemed to be brightening. But later—after dinner, and when the late trains had arrived—there was a change. After nine very few came to support the Government, whilst the Conservative reserves arrived in increased force, and, ominously among them, there came up not a few of the reserved of the reserves—men who never show unless their party is in extremity. Now, this showed that if the Opposition whips had not been more active than the Government whips, they had certainly been more successful.

## PALMERSTON ATTACKED FRONT AND REAR.

Meanwhile, what is going on in the house? When we left it the flank of the Opposition was in danger. There seemed to be a chance that the united Liberal party, and perhaps some of the Conservatives, would accept the Lord Advocate's amendment. But here also there had been a change; for, lo! now the Government is, so to speak, attacked in the rear, the leader of the assault being no less a personage than the Right Honourable Edward Pleydell Bouverie, a man of great experience and some influence, and, moreover, one of the staunchest Government supporters. Mr. Bouverie was not satisfied with Hunt's proposition, because it censured the Government, and was equally dissatisfied with the Lord Advocate's amendment because it did not sufficiently censure the Lord Chancellor; and so he had proposed an amendment which passed over the Government whilst it censured the Lord Chancellor still more severely than Mr. Hunt had ventured to do. And, what was worse, Hunt had accepted Bouverie's amendment. Here, then, was a dilemma for Lord Palmerston and the Government. Attacked in front and rear—between two fires, as it were—what could the noble Lord do? Well, this: He must, like other great commanders who have found themselves in a similar situation, withdraw his forces without a battle. If he fight, he will be beaten. Brand has already assured him of that. "Must have no battle, my Lord. Our enemies have gained strength; and, moreover, since Bouverie's amendment was proposed, our friends are shaky." "Umph! We must shog off sideways, without a battle, then."

## HE SHOES OFF WITHOUT A FIGHT.

This was the resolution of the noble Lord, and straightway he proceeded to carry out one of the cleverest manoeuvres which we have ever seen in our time. At twelve o'clock he suddenly rose, to the surprise of everybody, and moved the adjournment of the debate. At first this move of the noble Lord was quite unintelligible; and perhaps it is so even now to most of our readers. Listen, then, readers, and we will explain the subtle policy of this manoeuvre. Lord Palmerston was, as we have said, in a dilemma. He could not accept the amendment of Mr. Bouverie. To do so would be to desert the Lord Chancellor; to divide upon it would be to court certain defeat; and, further, he would by so doing unnecessarily commit all his faithful followers, and do them mischief at the hustings. "Ah! you voted for that Chancellor job, did you?" might be flung in the faces of these faithful henchmen. "But," said the noble Lord in his own sagacious mind, "if I carry this adjournment, Westbury must resign to-morrow, and then the matter will drop. If I cannot carry it, I can accept the decision of the House for the adjournment as a division upon Bouverie's amendment, and thus commit nobody." The noble Lord did not carry the adjournment; he lost it, though by only 14. He then consented to Bouverie's vote of censure without a division, and thus avoided a split in his party, and committed nobody. Some of the Liberal members, by voting against this censure, might have incurred the displeasure of their constituents; but nobody can find fault with them for voting for an adjournment, in order that the subject might have further consideration! The noble Lord's manoeuvre then was successful. He could not fight; but he did the next best thing—he led his army off the field without damage.

THE NEW BRIDGE AT BLACKFRIARS.—Thursday, the 20th of July, has been fixed by the Bridge House Estates Committee of the Corporation of London for laying the foundation-stone of the new bridge at Blackfriars, and great preparations are being made for the ceremony, which will be conducted by the Lord Mayor. As a precaution against accidents by the possible overcrowding of the temporary bridge, it will be entirely closed, both against carriage traffic and foot-passengers, on the day of laying the foundation-stone from ten in the morning until five in the afternoon, and the stone will be laid at the Surrey side of the river. The City authorities will first assemble at Guildhall, and proceed thence in great state to the place appointed, headed by the Lord Mayor. A luncheon will be served, at the cost of the Bridge House Committee, at Guildhall, before the pageant starts; and in the evening the Lord Mayor, following the precedent of Mr. Garratt, his predecessor in office when the foundation-stone of London Bridge was laid, in June, 1825, will entertain the Court of Common Council at a banquet at the Mansion House. The finding of the foundation-stone of the old bridge is anticipated with some curiosity, inasmuch as it contains many valuable gold coins of the period and some other articles of interest. The old foundation-stone was laid in the north abutment, and as the work of removing the arch there proceeds the spot is watched night and day lest any unauthorized hands should remove the stone.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Lord Ebury presented a petition from the Early Closing Association praying that the British Museum and other national collections might be open to the public on three evenings in the week.

Earl GRANVILLE and Lord STANHOPE said the matter had been inquired into, and it was found to be beset with difficulties.

## BUSINESS.

The Colonial Governors (Pensions) Bill was read a second time, after some discussion. Brief conversations took place in reference to the issuing of officers' commissions, the claims of Mr. Jackson on the Russian Government, and to half-pay officers in the Royal Navy.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. HENNESSY presented a petition from George Morris Mitchell, who is in Newgate for forging signatures to the Azem Jah petitions, alleging that he is innocent and praying inquiry.

On the motion for adjournment there was a brief discussion in reference to the minor canons of Carlisle Cathedral, and also one as to the salary of Dr. Sutherland, of the Sanitary Commission.

## THE BRITISH CAPTIVES IN ABYSSINIA.

Sir H. CAIRNS then at some length called attention to the case of the captives in Abyssinia, and contended that the Government had shown great neglect in the matter. He urged that some prompt measures should be taken to procure the release of the captives.

Mr. LAYARD entered minutely into the history of the whole affair. He concluded by giving an assurance that when last heard from in May the captives were in good health, and there was reason to expect their speedy release.

After some words from Mr. LIDDELL and Mr. H. SEYMOUR, the matter dropped.

## INDIA.

Mr. HENNESSY called attention to the delay of justice which had occurred in a suit against the Indian Government, called the small-arms suit, and also to the proceeding of the Secretary of State for India in endeavouring to overrule a decision of the Queen in council in the Begum Sombre case.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied, and said all possible consideration would be given to the suits.

MONDAY, JULY 3.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord Ebury moved a resolution declaring that an amendment to the burial service was necessary.

The ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY opposed the motion, and, after some discussion, it was negatived by 43 votes to 20.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

Sir L. PALK presented a petition from Mr. Wilde, late Registrar of the Leeds Court of Bankruptcy, praying to be heard against allegations in respect to his character which had been made by the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. W. HUNT then moved the following resolution:—"That the evidence taken before the Committee of this House on the Leeds Bankruptcy Court discloses that great facility exists for obtaining public appointments by corrupt means; that such evidence, and also that taken before a Committee of the House of Lords in the case of Leonard Edmunds, and laid before this House, showed a laxity of practice and want of caution, on the part of the Lord Chancellor, in sanctioning the grant of retiring pensions to public officers over whose heads grave charges are impending, and in filling up the vacancies made by the retirement of such officers, whereby great encouragement has been given to corrupt practices; and that such laxity and want of caution, even in the absence of an improper motive, are, in the opinion of this House, highly reprehensible and calculated to throw discredit on the administration of the high offices of state." The hon. member frankly avowed that he proposed this motion as a vote of censure upon the Lord Chancellor, and observed that if he had undertaken it on frivolous or insufficient grounds the censure would recoil upon his own head; whilst, if he could show that there were real and substantial grounds for it, he should be satisfied with having discharged his duty. In a lengthened and temperate speech the hon. member carefully analysed the evidence taken before the Select Committee, and concluded, from all the facts of the case, that the Lord Chancellor had exhibited a moral obtuseness that had given great occasion for scandal; that he had led people to think that places could be obtained by corrupt means; that he did not scan too nicely the reasons for removing one man from office and appointing another; and that his "famous simplicity," if such words could be applied to him, had enabled the persons by whom he was surrounded to practise a system of corruption which was almost as bad for the country as if he himself were personally guilty of it.

The LORD ADVOCATE admitted that it behoved the House to be sensitively jealous of the purity of those who were intrusted with the administration of justice, but denied that the evidence, even if reliable, had established any case which would justify a vote of censure upon the Lord Chancellor. The facts appeared to be that Miller had acted in an absurdly officious manner; that Richard Bethell had proved a source of great pain and mortification to his father; and that Mr. Welch had had pecuniary transactions with Richard Bethell of which the Lord Chancellor had no knowledge whatever. He urged that an unreasonable and unfriendly construction had been put upon the conduct of the Lord Chancellor, and that there was not even the most slender chain to connect the noble and learned Lord with the corrupt practices alleged. In conclusion, he moved, as an amendment to the resolution of Mr. Ward Hunt, "That this House, having considered the report of the Select Committee on the Leeds Bankruptcy Court, and the evidence taken by it, agrees with the Committee in the opinion that the facts which are established against the Lord Chancellor of all charge in the matter except haste and want of caution in granting a pension to Mr. Wilde; and that this House is of opinion that some further check should be placed by law to the granting of pensions to legal officers."

Mr. HENNESSY was disposed to extend the indictment to other members of the Government beside the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. DENMAN stigmatised the motion as a great and cruel injustice to the Lord Chancellor, and expressed his regret that the Government had not met it with a direct negative.

Mr. E. H. BOUVIERE reviewed the evidence at some length, and stated that, for his own part, he trusted the positive statement of Mr. Miller to the want of recollection of the Lord Chancellor. He believed that the noble and learned Lord had been guilty of a dereliction of duty in dealing with the officers within his patronage; but he acquitted him of personal corruption, although he could not but regard the recent transactions which had been brought to light as most disgraceful. He moved an amendment to the effect "That this House, having considered the report of the Committee on the Leeds Bankruptcy Court and the evidence disclosed the existence of corrupt practices with regard to the appointment of Patrick R. Welch to the office of Registrar of the Leeds Bankruptcy Court, they are satisfied that no imputation can fairly be made against the Lord Chancellor, with regard to his appointment; and that such evidence, and also that taken before the Committee of the House of Lords to inquire into the circumstances connected with the resignation of Mr. Leonard Edmunds of the office held by him, and laid before this House, show a laxity of practice and a want of caution with regard to the public interests, on the part of the Lord Chancellor, in sanctioning the grant of retiring pensions to public officers against whom grave charges were pending, which, in the opinion of this House, is calculated to discredit the administration of his great office."

Mr. HUNT expressed his willingness to withdraw his motion in favour of the amendment of Mr. Bouverie.

Mr. HOWES (Chairman of the Leeds Committee) was gratified at the course proposed to be adopted, as he considered the amendment of Mr. Bouverie represented correctly the feelings of the Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL defended the Lord Chancellor, contending that he had proved himself to be a genuine law reformer and corrector of abuses. He had selected judges without regard to political party or personal consideration, and he had proved himself an able and sagacious, although possibly too indulgent, functionary.

Mr. HENLEY thought the House could not, after full consideration of the evidence, refuse to assent to the amendment of Mr. Bouverie.

The motion of Mr. W. Hunt was then negatived by consent.

The amendment of the Lord Advocate having thus become the original question.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that the new amendment submitted by Mr. Bouverie had materially altered the issue, and, in order to give time for the Government and the House to consider it, he moved that the debate be adjourned until this day.

Mr. DISRAELI said it would be his duty to oppose so extraordinary a motion as that which the leader of the House had made. The Opposition had accepted the amendment of the Government without notice, and it would be a mere mockery to adjourn the debate.

The House then divided on the question of adjournment, and the numbers were—

|                     |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| For adjourning—Ayes | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 163 |
| Noes                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 177 |

Majority against Government .. 14

The result was hailed with loud cheers from the Opposition.

Lord PALMERSTON then rose and said that, as he was anxious not to give the House the trouble of dividing unnecessarily, the Government were prepared to accept the division on the question of adjournment as indicating the feeling of the House with regard to the motion of Mr. Bouverie.

This announcement was received with tremendous cheers from the Opposition.



The motion of the Lord Advocate having been put and negatived, the amendment of Mr. Bouverie was then carried nem. con.

## TUESDAY, JULY 4.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### RESIGNATION OF THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

Earl GRANVILLE announced that the Lord Chancellor had resigned, but would hold the Great Seal until after the prorogation of Parliament.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

Earl RUSSELL laid on the table despatches from the United States Government announcing the cessation of the civil war and expressing gratification at the withdrawal of belligerent rights from the late Southern Confederacy. The noble Lord stated, in reply to the Earl of Derby, that there was nothing in the despatches to confirm the report which had appeared in the newspapers that the usual courtesies would be still denied to British ships of war.

#### THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

Lord CHELMSFORD called attention to the papers relating to British captives in Abyssinia, which, he contended, absolved the late Mr. Plowden and Captain Cameron from the charges made against them by Mr. Layard, of having disobeyed his instructions and interfered in the internal affairs of the country.

Earl RUSSELL justified the proceedings of the Foreign Office, which had acted on the best advice it could obtain, and would lose no opportunity and neglect no means of procuring the release of these unfortunate persons.

#### IRISH CONVOCATION.

Earl GRANVILLE, in reply to the Archbishop of Dublin, said that Government did not see their way to advising her Majesty to allow the assembling of the Convocation of the Irish Church to consider the canon relating to clerical subscription.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that, in deference to the vote of the House on the previous evening, the Lord Chancellor had felt it to be his duty to tender the resignation of his office to the Queen, who had been pleased to accept the same. It was only right to add that, as early as the commencement of the Session, the Lord Chancellor, stung by attacks from different quarters, had repeatedly pressed that his resignation should be conveyed to her Majesty. Those requests had not been complied with because of the persuasion entertained by the Government that the noble and learned Lord would be thoroughly acquitted of any improper motives; and he had asked him, therefore, not to insist upon tendering his resignation, as in all probability a Parliamentary inquiry would be made into the charges alleged against him. That inquiry had taken place, and his noble and learned friend had been entirely exonerated from any corrupt motive. He had now, however, resigned, and, after the formalities incidental to the dissolution had been completed, he would, on Friday next, surrender the seals of office.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Afterwards, as there was no business for Wednesday, it was agreed that the House should not meet until four o'clock—then to hear the Royal assent given to several bills.

Lord PALMERSTON then moved the thanks of the House to the gentlemen who had devoted so much time and labour to the private business. He mentioned the name particularly of Mr. Charles Forster.

Mr. DISRAELI seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 5.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

The Royal assent was given, by Commission, to more than 200 bills.

The LORD CHANCELLOR then rose and announced that he had resigned his office, and that his resignation had been accepted by her Majesty. Had he followed his own judgment, he should have taken this step some months ago; but he had refrained in deference to the opinion of the members of the Cabinet. He wished to meet any charges made against him in the character of a private person; but Lord Palmerston would not admit that this should be a principle of political conduct, as the consequence would be that anyone, by bringing an accusation, could drive a Lord Chancellor from office. In this manner his resignation had been postponed till the previous day. As to the opinion pronounced by the House of Commons, he was bound to accept it, but hoped that after an interval of time calmer thoughts would prevail, and a more favourable view be taken of his conduct. He referred to the measures which his tenure of office had enabled him to propose, and which had received the assent of the House. He regretted he had not been able to commence the great work of making a digest of the whole law, but Parliament had not granted the means till the present Session. But the scheme of this digest he left, already prepared, to the hands of his successor. He promised that, as a private member of the House, he should be anxious to promote all those legal reforms which yet remained to be carried into effect. He added that the appellate jurisdiction of the House was in a satisfactory state. At the close of the Session there would not be a judgment in arrears, except in one case, in which the arguments had only just been concluded. In the Court of Chancery, at the close of the week, there would not remain one appeal unheard or one judgment undelivered. He then thanked their Lordships for the kindness he had always received, and hoped if any inadvertent or hasty expression had at any time given pain, that the circumstance would be erased from their memory.

The Appropriation Bill was read a third time.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE ROMAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.

Sir G. GREY stated, in answer to Mr. HENNESSY, that he had no formal communication with Roman Catholic Bishops on the subject of the incorporation of the Roman Catholic University with the Queen's University in Ireland. He had been in communication, however, with the Lord Lieutenant respecting it, and the Government were prepared to carry out that object.

## THURSDAY, JULY 6.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Their Lordships assembled, at noon, for the last time in the history of the present Parliament. The attendance of Peers was very small. The Royal Commissioners were Earl Granville, the Earl of St. Germans, Viscount Sidney, Viscount Eversley, and Lord Wensleydale.

The House of Commons having been summoned by the Usher of the Black Rod, Sir Augustus Clifford, to the bar, to hear the Royal assent given to several bills, a considerable number of members immediately presented themselves, with the Speaker at their head. The reading clerk (the Hon. Sir George Bethell) then read the Royal Commission at the table; after which the Royal assent was given, in the usual form, to a number of bills.

Earl Granville then read, in a clear and distinctly-audible voice, the following most gracious speech:—

#### MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and, at the same time, to convey to you her Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your duties in the Session now brought to a close.

We are further commanded to inform you that, as the present Parliament has now so nearly lasted the period assigned by law for the duration of Parliaments that you could not enter upon another yearly Session with advantage to the public interest, it is her Majesty's intention immediately to dissolve the present Parliament, and to issue writs for the calling of a new one.

But her Majesty cannot take leave of you without commanding us to express to you her Majesty's deep sense of the zeal and public spirit which, during the six years of your existence as a Parliament, you have constantly displayed in the discharge of important functions, and tendering to you her Majesty's warm acknowledgments for the many good measures which you have submitted for her acceptance, and which have greatly conduced to the diminution of the public burdens and to the encouragement of industry; to the increase of the wealth and to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of her Majesty's people.

We are commanded to inform you that her Majesty's relations with Foreign Powers are friendly and satisfactory, and she trusts that there are no questions pending which are likely to lead to any disturbance of the peace of Europe.

Her Majesty rejoices that the civil war in North America has ended, and she trusts that the evil caused by that long conflict may be repaired, and that prosperity may be restored in the States which have suffered from the contest.

Her Majesty regrets that the conferences and communications between her Majesty's North American provinces on the subject of the union of those provinces in a confederation have not yet led to a satisfactory result. Such a union would afford additional strength to those provinces and give facilities for many internal improvements. Her Majesty has received gratifying assurances of the devoted loyalty of her North American subjects.

Her Majesty rejoices at the continued tranquillity and increasing prosperity of her Indian dominions; and she trusts that the large supply which those territories will afford of the raw material of manufacturing industry together with the termination of the civil war in the United States of North America, will prevent the recurrence of the distress which long pre-

valled among the manufacturing population of some of the northern counties.

#### GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her warm acknowledgments for the liberal supplies which you have granted to her Majesty for the service of the present year and towards the permanent defence of her Majesty's dockyards and arsenals.

The commercial treaty which her Majesty has recently concluded with Prussia and the other States composing the German Commercial Union has, by her Majesty's commands, been laid before you. Her Majesty trusts that this treaty will contribute to the development of commercial relations between this country and Germany, and will promote the interests of the several countries which are parties to it.

Her Majesty commands us to assure you that her attention will continue to be directed to all such measures as may be calculated to extend and to place on a sound footing the trade between her Majesty's dominions and foreign countries.

#### MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Her Majesty has given her cordial assent to many measures of public usefulness, the result of your labours in the Session now brought to a close.

The Act for rendering the expenses incurred for the support of the poor chargeable upon the whole of a union, instead of being confined to separate parishes, will diminish the hardship inflicted upon the labouring poor by reason of removals from parish to parish.

The Partnership Amendment Act will tend to encourage the profitable employment of capital.

The Courts of Justice Building and Concentration Acts will, it is hoped, lessen the expense and shorten the duration of legal proceedings.

The Clerical Subscription Act, founded on the recommendation of a Royal Commission, will remove objections which have been felt to the number and variety of the forms of subscription and declaration hitherto required of the clergy.

The management and discipline of prisons will be improved by the Act for the consolidation and amendment of the laws on that subject.

The County Court Equitable Jurisdiction Act will give a useful extension to the local administration of justice.

The Act for Consolidating the Comptrollership of the Exchequer with the Board of Audit will tend to increase the efficiency of the arrangements for auditing the public accounts.

The Act for Establishing the Record of Titles in Ireland will make more easy and secure the transfer of land.

The Act for amending the laws which govern the constabulary force in Ireland will tend to prevent the recurrence of such disorders as happened last year at Belfast.

The Colonial Naval Defence Act has removed restrictions which have hitherto prevented the colonies from taking effectual measures for their own defence against attacks by sea.

Her Majesty has also gladly given her assent to many other useful measures of less general importance.

The electors of the United Kingdom will soon be called upon again to choose their representatives in Parliament; and her Majesty fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend their proceedings, and may guide them towards the attainment of the object of her Majesty's constant solicitude—the welfare and happiness of her people.

At half-past twelve the House was formally prorogued, and the sixth Session of the expiring Parliament thus brought to a close.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At twelve o'clock Sir Augustus Clifford, Usher of the Black Rod, summoned the House to the Lords', to be present at the prorogation of Parliament, and, on the return of the Speaker, the usual simple proceedings of closing the Session took place.

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### LORD WESTBURY.

RICHARD BETHELL, Lord Westbury, is no longer High Chancellor of England. A vote of the House of Commons has deprived the country of the official services of one of the clearest intellects, most indefatigable workers, and most fearless law reformers that has ever adorned the woollack. But that vote, while deeply to be deplored, was both just and necessary. In the circumstances, no other course save the one taken was open to the representatives of the nation. Indeed, the proceedings in the House on Monday were of a character such as Englishmen might at once be justly proud of, and yet deeply grieve over. It was matter for pride that the great inquest of the people did not shrink, even in its last hours, from expressing its opinion of the shortcomings of the highest legal official in the land; and it is a subject for deep regret that those shortcomings should have made it necessary for the people's House of Parliament to pronounce the severe but just censure which it did. It is, moreover, matter for congratulation that the motion finally adopted was not that of adverse politicians, but was the proposition of an independent and highly honourable member—using those epithets in their natural and not merely Parliamentary sense—and one, too, who is usually a supporter of the Government of which Lord Westbury was a member. Had the motion of Mr. Hunt been adopted, there might have been room for the thought that the censure pronounced upon the late Lord Chancellor was the result of party tactics; while, as it is, all will accept the deliverance of the House as just and honest, though severe. Very likely party motives may have had their influence. Some of those who voted in the majority may have been more anxious to damage a Liberal official than to condemn the corruption which that official had failed to detect and to resist. But we are willing to believe that the greater number of those members who accepted Mr. Bouverie's motion did so from a sense of duty, to obey which was unavoidable, however painful; for to honourable and high-minded men—and such are the

great majority of the members of Parliament—it can never be agreeable to witness, much less to aid in, the downfall of a gifted and useful public servant. Mere party motives must surely become dwarfed and insignificant in presence of a question as to the moral rectitude and official purity of a prominent public official, and of so eminent a man as Lord Westbury.

As to the late Lord Chancellor himself, he has passed out of the fiery ordeal to which he has been subjected unscathed in his personal and moral reputation, however decided is the condemnation pronounced upon his official administration. While the House of Commons has declared that he was guilty of "a laxity of practice and a want of caution with regard to the public interests, in sanctioning the grant of retiring pensions to public officers against whom grave charges were pending which are calculated to discredit the administration of his great office," it also declared that "no imputation could fairly be made against the Lord Chancellor" in regard to the transactions under consideration. The judgment, carefulness, discretion, and firmness of Lord Westbury were impugned by the vote of the House, not his moral rectitude. The head and front of his offending had the extent indicated by Mr. Bouverie's motion; no more. His Lordship is neither too old nor too feeble a man but that he may yet live this scandal down, retrieve his reputation, do good service to his country, and leave an honourable name in its annals. And he may be well assured of this, that in doing so he will have the hearty sympathy of all good men, on account of the unhappy family circumstances by which he is surrounded, and which have had so large a share in bringing about the painful position in which he is now placed.

The case against the late Chancellor looked bad indeed as at first stated; but happily, as we anticipated, all the worst features of it have been cleared away. Indeed, it was absurd to suppose that a man who had dismissed his own son from office solely because he was in debt and was addicted to irregular habits, but against whom no malversation in the discharge of his duties—no improper use of the public funds passing through his hands—has, as yet at least, been alleged, would have intrigued to deprive Mr. Wilde of his situation in order to make room for the very son who had again and again been refused any other office whatever.

Lord Westbury has been shown to have been negligent of the public interests in his mode of dealing with some public officers; but that weakness did not extend to his son Richard, at all events. Nor is it possible to believe that Lord Westbury was in the least aware of the improper dealings between his son and Mr. Welch, who, though he obtained the appointment at Leeds, must have owed the favour to other influence than that for which he paid. How, indeed, could the late Chancellor have been influenced, at the time of Mr. Welch's appointment, by the son whom he had neither seen nor communicated with for months before that appointment was made or the vacancy at Leeds existed? The aspiring and unscrupulous Mr. Welch will now, we hope, reap the natural fruits of his misconduct, and lose both his money and his place.

The fate of Lord Westbury cannot fail to be a warning to officials, high and low, as to how they dispense the patronage in their hands and grant pensions from public funds. Few instances are recorded in the annals of this country of practices so gross as those with which the names of Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Welch, Richard Bethell, and Lord Westbury are connected—that have been found out, at least; and the most prominent cases—those of Lords Bacon, Macclesfield, and Melville—have transmitted the names of these eminent men to all time covered with ineradicable stains. This, we hope, will not be the case with Lord Westbury. But let all public officers take heed, and be pure in their conduct, as they would wish a pure fame to pass with their memories to future times. But yet another lesson is to be drawn from these unhappy transactions, and that is the one pointed to in the concluding clause of the Lord Advocate's amendment. There ought, undoubtedly, to be some further check upon the granting of pensions. Those who have the dispensing of patronage should not also be empowered to grant retiring allowances to public servants. That should be in other hands, so that one department may be a check upon another. If we had not known before, we have learned now, that official humanity, like humanity generally, is "unco weak," and ought, therefore, to be as little trusted as possible.

MR. JAMES CAIRD will succeed the late Mr. Wingrove Cooke as Commissioner of Inclosures.

BUST OF MR. COBDEN.—The many admirers and friends of the late Mr. Cobden have now an opportunity of inspecting an admirable bust of the lately-deceased statesman, which is to be seen for a short time at the gallery of Mr. Claudet, photographer to the Queen, in Regent-street. The bust, which is of somewhat colossal size, has been executed by a French artist, M. A. Mègret, under disadvantageous circumstances; but the best proof of his success is to be found in the fact that his work has received the commendation of Mrs. Cobden and several members of her family, as well as many of Mr. Cobden's most intimate political and private friends. He is represented in his habit as he lived amongst us; the artist having wisely discarded all adventitious aids borrowed from a representation of classical drapery; but he has contrived to impart such a degree of geniality and expression to the features as must remind all who knew Mr. Cobden of his amiable private character and his many estimable qualities.

WAGES MOVEMENT IN THE BUILDING TRADE.—A delegate meeting was held, on Wednesday evening, in Cambridge Hall, Newman-street, to take into consideration the reply of the builders to a memorial from the carpenters and joiners seeking an increase of wages. Resolutions adopted by the men of the various building establishments were read by the delegates, and the majority were in favour of advancing the claim for 7½d. per hour, and against the proposal of 7d. made by the employers at a recent meeting of their body. The greater number of employers had expressed their willingness to accede to the demand if example were set, and a firm in St. John's-wood had already paid 7½d. an hour to its men. After considerable discussion it was resolved that a deputation of the men should wait on the employers on Monday next, and request to have an answer on the subsequent Saturday as to whether they intended to accede to the demand for a rise of 3d. per hour after Aug. 1. It was also agreed that a meeting of the delegates should be held on the 19th inst., to deliberate on the measures to be adopted in case the employers gave an adverse reply.



### "THE CHURCH DOOR."

FROM THE PICTURE IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

IN "The Church Door," which we this week reproduce by an Engraving, Mr. Wyburd has succeeded in painting one of those pictures which must depend not so much on the story itself as on the manner in which that story is told. The subject of almsgiving and of charity observed at the church porch has been at all times one which has attracted artists who have desired to paint a quiet picture of the sentiment of common life hallowed by religious motives; but the present work is a little beyond the ordinary efforts in the same direction, and is made the occasion of exhibiting great skill in colour and a fine appreciation of the effect of costume as well as of facial expression. The plain door and the wall on which

the sacred emblem is seen make a striking background for the quaint costumes of the mother and the child, while the half-patient, half-expectant face of the old woman, on whom the little benefactress is about to bestow her gift, is well matched with the severity of that mendicant dress.

We may well expect that Mr. Wyburd will give us a picture in some future exhibition which will establish his claim to enter the first rank of the profession, since he has been able to effect so much in the way of colour and composition in the subject he has chosen for the Academy this year.

### THE PORTRAIT MINIATURES AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

THE idea of a collection of the portrait miniatures of Great

Britain suggests a most interesting exhibition, but the display at the South Kensington Museum by no means realises any such expectation. A sort of fatality seems to attend everything undertaken by the management of that establishment; and, just as they have deprived Hampton Court of its cartoons in order to place them in a gallery which is too narrow to allow of their being seen, they have made of an exhibition, which should be delightful and informing, a bewildering and wearisome muddle.

The collection is vast, but its excellence does not keep pace with its extent. The gems of the art have to be laboriously sought out amid a hundred mediocre miniatures. There is no attempt at classification, which is one of the first necessities, if the exhibition is to be instructive and useful. It is true that this necessity of chrono-



"THE CHURCH-DOOR: ALMSGIVING."—(FROM THE PICTURE, BY MR. WYBURD, IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

logical arrangement did not escape the South Kensington authorities, but the reason given for its non-adoption in the official catalogue is only to be regarded as either an excuse for laziness or a confession of incompetence. The proposal to atone for this error by the compilation of "chronological and historical indexes for the assistance of students and visitors" is simply absurd. The present catalogue is too voluminous already, and is a fine example of book-making. Eccentricities and elegancies of typography have swelled the price of this really valueless work to the exorbitant sum of five shillings—a sum which is ridiculously high when we compare it with the usual charge for catalogues, and really iniquitous when we remember that the special intention of the South Kensington Museum is to popularise art and educate the middle and labouring classes to its appreciation and enjoyment.

While we are discussing the merits, or demerits, of the arrangement, we may perhaps be permitted to question the policy of

another course pursued by the authorities. In the preface already alluded to we find the following ingenious admission:—

It is also essential to explain that, except in some few cases of obvious error, the names both of the persons represented and of the artists have been catalogued as described by the possessors of the works lent, as it was not deemed right, however strong the presumption, to attempt to disturb names which have possibly been traditional for several generations, or just towards those who have so graciously lent their family treasures.

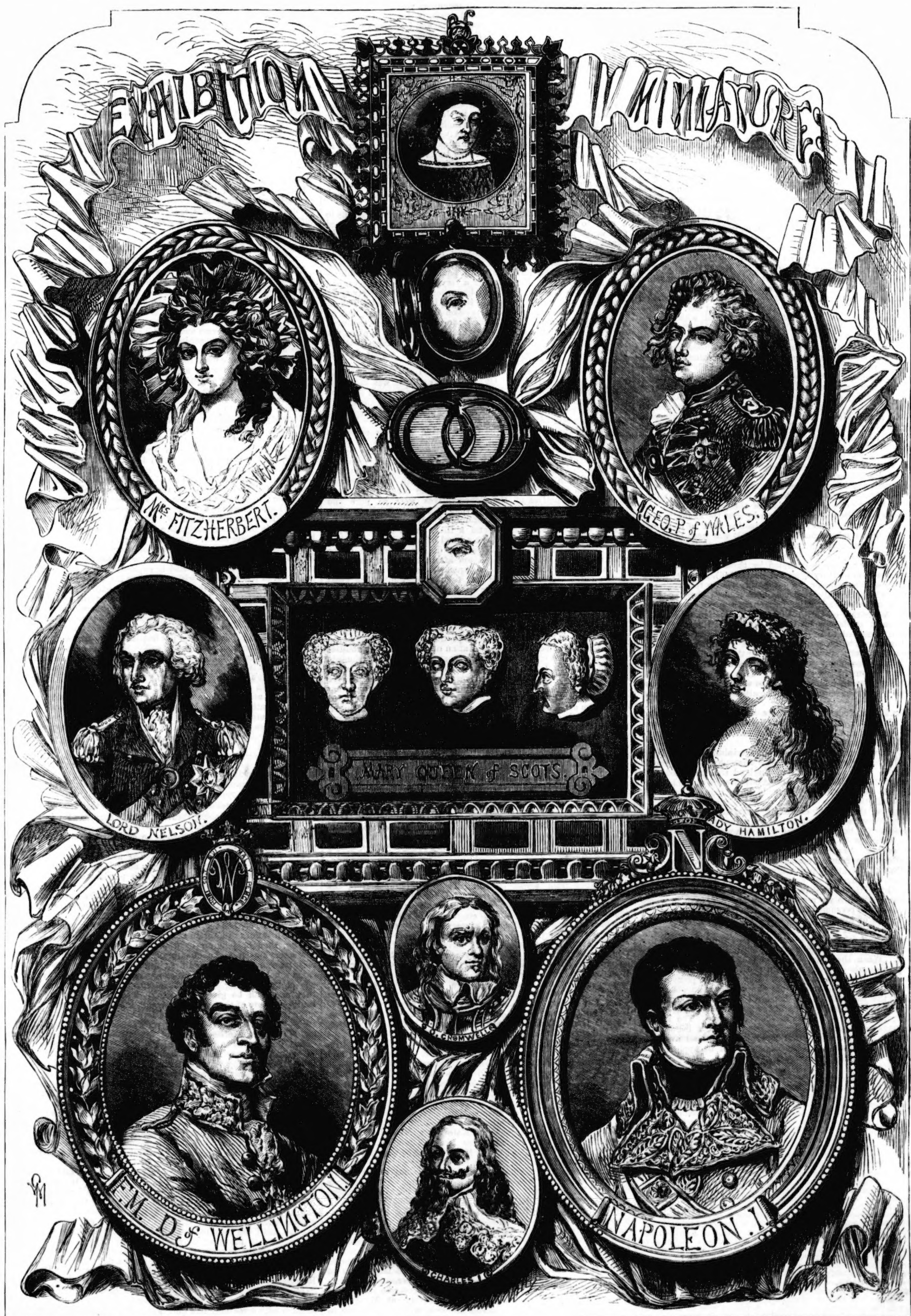
What can be said in defence of this? If Mr. Thackeray were still alive it might form the text for a new chapter in that volume of sermons entitled the "Book of Snobs." Imagine a council which was intended to establish art on a sound footing lending itself to the perpetuation of error! It would surely have been better to decline these questionable works than to propagate fiction and give the weight of the council's tacit confirmation of false assumptions. A national collection should not suffer from unwise deference to the prejudices or mistakes of individuals, and if the council did not go

to work rather as individuals than as a public body, sacrificing the public advantage to their personal inclinations, the offence which it is alleged might arise would not exist for one moment in the face of their unmistakable duty to the nation, which intrusts to them such a charge as that of the South Kensington Museum.

To turn from the catalogue to the collection—an exhibition of one quarter the size, judiciously selected, would be valuable. As it is, the critic, with his trained powers of endurance, shrinks appalled from the task of inspecting it as it should be inspected. As for the public, who have no sense of duty to impel them, they weary before they have seen half the exhibition. The student and the artist waste time and labour in wading through the quantity of inferior works to find those which will repay them.

Of course, in so large a collection, it is impossible not to meet with most valuable and interesting miniatures. It would be absurd to attempt to enumerate them; but we may mention a very curious picture of "The Coalition" (51)—a face made up one half of the





MINIATURES AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.



countenance of Lord North, the other of that of Charles Fox. Another peculiar miniature is that of the father and grandmother of Queen Elizabeth's great Lord Chancellor—a likeness of Sir John Boling Hatton and his mother (950). A snuffbox, exquisitely enamelled with lovely portraits of the celebrated beauties of the Court of Louis XIV. (2239), is also worthy of inspection; and there is a wonderful heart shaped ornament, which belonged to Murray, Prince Charles's secretary, and which contains six most minute portraits of the Stuarts—James II.; the old Chevalier and his wife, the Princess Sobieski; Charles I. and Henrietta Maria; and Prince Charles Edward.

Some other fine Stuart portraits will be found in Nos. 2829, 2830, 2831, and 2832; and there is a very curious likeness of Charles I. etched on ivory (2904). A sketch of Garrick (2939), made by Dance from the pit of the theatre, a charming head of the Countess of Oxford (2927), and the Bodleian likeness of Pope (2883), should be looked for. An interesting miniature of Mary Queen of Scots (2968), and an elaborate pencil-drawing of Otway (2853), should not be missed; nor should the visitor overlook some fine specimens of Indian art of this class (2906-2912). A few heads will at once attract attention as being familiar. Mrs. Siddons (2820), Nell Gwynne (2615), and many other famous women will be found portrayed here, and we encounter the well-known features of Cromwell and Napoleon, or the welcome lineaments of the noted literary men of the past, Addison, Hobbes, and Suckling. A likeness of Horace Walpole as a boy (73) will be interesting to most.

We have selected a few of the most interesting miniatures, which (by the kind permission of the several owners) we engrave and present to our readers. First of these, we find a small but admirable likeness of Henry VIII. (652), by Hans Holbein. The delicacy of finish and minute detail in this work bear inspection with a magnifying glass. The head, marked by keen, coarse intellect, bespeaks the Monarch's character—a combination of mental and animal power. This picture is the property of Mr. Magniac. Next to it we come to a group of relics connected with George, Prince of Wales, and the first of his injured wives, Mrs. Fitzherbert. The Prince (2132) looks the rollicking Royal profligate he was, while Mrs. Fitzherbert's (2131) face has a touch of sadness for which, probably, the artist had not to draw on his imagination. Between these two portraits will be seen the ring (2133) with which they were privately married at Carlton House. It is a "gimmal" ring—that is to say, two rings, one within the other, so fitted together as to form, apparently, only one ring when worn on the finger. A noticeable feature of this relic is its size; it is almost large enough for a thumb-ring. Above it in our Engraving will be observed paintings on ivory of the eye of Mrs. Fitzherbert (2134) and of the Prince (2135); his is a languishing blue, which even in the painting seems unable to look you straight in the face, but leers out of the corner. The lady's is a fine, frank, dark orb, with considerable power of expression. These interesting mementos have been lent by Captain Dawson Damer, M.P.

To the Prince and his wife succeed another couple whose loves are matter of history now—Lord Nelson (580) and Lady Hamilton (582). The bright yet melancholy face of the great Admiral, with its courage and intellect, is well portrayed. But the exquisite loveliness of "poor Emma" has had scant justice paid to it, though the picture acquires value from the fact that it was worn by Nelson at Trafalgar. These pictures are the property respectively of Mr. Myers and Miss Onvry.

The centre of our group is occupied by three copies, in various aspects, of the head of Mary Queen of Scots (546), from her monumental effigy at Westminster. They hardly justify the reputation for beauty which that ill-fated lady bore, though there are some fine points about the face. Miss Preston is the possessor of this curiosity. A portrait of Oliver Cromwell (351), enamelled after the well-known miniature by Cooper, derives an interest from having been presented to Bridget Cromwell on her marriage with General Ireton. It is the property of Mr. C. Polhill, a descendant of Bridget Cromwell. In connection with this we find a head of Charles I. (1064) curiously designed, and made up of his own hair, cut off at the time of his execution. This strange relic is the property of the Dowager Lady Shelley, to whom it descended from an ancestor who was executed for participation in the Derwentwater rising.

Our selection concludes with portraits of the Duke of Wellington (987) and his great rival the Emperor Napoleon I. (989), the former painted by Isabey, and the latter by Berdes. The first belongs to Lord Cowley, the second to Mr. Prior.

It is only too obvious that, in later years, miniature art has fallen off, and it is hardly a matter of surprise that photography should have driven it from the field. Had England still possessed such miniature painters as those who painted our Stuarts or the beauties of the French Court, photography would have found it impossible to compete with them.

The object of the present exhibition is stated to be a hope that the art may be revived in England. We question whether anything could resuscitate it, but we are perfectly certain that no encouragement will be given to it by so ill-organised and mismanaged a collection as this. As a museum of curiosities, supplemented by a picture-gallery, the South Kensington is excellent; and the large numbers that visit it amply prove how necessary it is. But, as a school of art, or a means of actively educating the masses, it is utterly worthless, if not positively mischievous. Nor is this much to be wondered at when we remember that Mr. Redgrave, in whose direction it may be presumed this department is left, makes, perhaps, the worst figure of all the R.A.s—and that is saying much—who exhibit on the walls of the Academy this year.

In these times of reform it is not too much to expect that some day the arrangements and management of South Kensington may be remodelled. When that time comes we may be able to point out many improvements—for instance, in the library, which is very inadequate and ill-chosen at present. But we may point out at once that the advantage derived from the co-operation obtainable by placing the museum in the hands of a management that is united almost like one family is hardly so good a plan as the simple system of putting the right man in the right place. The Bethell family belongs to the intellectual aristocracy of Great Britain, but it has been found in practice that it does not do to fill all available legal posts with Bethells, and the lesson might be applied, with advantage to the South Kensington Museum.

**POISONING AT STOCKHOLM.**—A pastor named Lindbach has been charged with poisoning at least three of his flock, by means of arsenic given in the sacramental wine. He has pleaded guilty to the charge, but could assign no other reason for having done so but a desire to obtain for his parish the riddance of the burden which the maintenance of those indigent people had entailed upon it; but whilst he also confessed that he had poisoned a retired merchant, M. Lyson, who lodged in his house, he admitted that in that instance the hopes of gain, by a succession to the estate of his victim, had been the motive which had induced him to commit the crime. It is thought that other cases will yet be brought against him.

**THE BANKRUPTCY COURTS.**—A Parliamentary paper, issued on Monday, throws some more light on the internal arrangements of the Bankruptcy Courts. The amount of balances in the hands of official assignees, but not included in the quarterly returns of such balances, was at the end of last year reported to the Lord Chancellor to be £1331, exclusive of £3817 Consols. At the same time, £2430 is alleged to have been charged to estates by the official assignees without authority of the Court, and to be due to the several estates until dealt with by the Court. It was Mr. Whitmore, of Birmingham, who is stated to have omitted any mention of that trifle of £3817 of stock and some £900 in cash; while Mr. Cannan, of London, is said to have charged £1000 to estates without authority. Moreover, £13,887 is reported to have been received by the official assignees, of which there is no trace in their returns. The chief omissions were as follows:—London—Mr. Cannan, £998; Mr. Edwards, £1372; Mr. Graham, £1663; Mr. Stanfield, £860. Birmingham—Mr. Harris, £1803. Leeds—Mr. Carrick, £1315; and Mr. Young, £1204. The deficiencies unaccounted for by Mr. Edwards and Mr. Graham are still outstanding; the rest have been nearly all paid over "in pursuance of reports." A further sum of £15,692 is reported to have received in respect of surplus fees, without being included in the returns. Some of the messengers seem to have followed in the same steps as the assignees, having been required to pay over £25,409 in respect of surplus fees and sums reported to have been received but not entered in the accounts. One messenger is thus described:—"Resigned, and cannot be found."

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

SIR JOHN TRELAWNEY has retired from Tavistock. Altogether, he has represented this borough for seventeen years. He sat for it from 1843 to 1852, and was elected again in 1857. Annually, I believe, Sir John has met his constituents, and has always secured a unanimous vote of confidence. But, last week, when he met them, there was disunion; and in the end the vote of confidence proposed could not be carried. In such circumstances Sir John felt that he ought not to go to the poll. Why the Tavistock people have deserted their old and faithful member has not been accurately explained; but it is rumoured that Sir John has not given satisfaction in that he has not subscribed with sufficient liberality to the local institutions, and that wealthy men are in the field making large promises of much greater liberality. Sir John, on principle, refused to buy the support of the voters in this indirect way. Moreover, it is said that the Dissenters (the ingrates!), to obtain whose enfranchisement from the burden of church rates Sir John has laboured so hard, have turned against him, because he is too lax for them on Sunday questions. Tavistock, then, which has for so long been represented by an efficient member and most honest and pure statesman, if ever there was one, will drop into the hands of some wealthy son of mammon—will, like many other boroughs, be bought and sold, in short.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"It is sometimes very dangerous to a man to be too useful. If it be true, as reported, that Lord Cranworth is to succeed Lord Westbury, Sir Roundell Palmer is punished for the ability and the character which make it so impossible to replace him." Meaning that Sir Roundell would gladly take the Great Seal if it were to be offered. But is it so? I fancy that Sir Roundell would pause before he shelved himself on the woolpack. He is earning a very large income—very much more than the salary of the Lord Chancellor. He is only fifty-three years old, and surely he would hardly like to run the risk of being laid up in ordinary with a pension of £5000 a year, and no possibility of earning more. If Sir Roundell Palmer were to accept the post of Lord Chancellor and the elections were to place the Government in a minority, this would be the Attorney-General's position: he would have sacrificed some £10,000 a year for the honour of being Lord Chancellor for six months.

The rumour is, whilst I am writing, that Lord Cranworth is to be the Lord Chancellor. On Monday night it was said that Mr. Page Wood or Sir John Romilly was to be the man. I suppose, though, that it will be Lord Cranworth. He was Lord Chancellor in the Aberdeen Government, and by his appointment a pension of £5000 a year will be saved.

Several of the speakers on the Conservative side were careful to inform us that the indictment of Lord Westbury was no party matter. It was simply a sense of duty—anxiety that the purity and honour of the high office of Lord Chancellor should be preserved—that prompted the attack. Well, it may have been so; but it is singular that, in division, the Conservatives, with few exceptions, all voted on one side and the Liberals on the other. And then, again, if the motives of the Conservatives were so pure and patriotic, what was the meaning of that wild howl of delight when the result of the division was pronounced? Was that inspired by anxiety for purity and honour—and a' that, and a' that? To me, who heard it, it appeared more like a howl of triumph over a fallen foe. Mere judges and jurists, Messieurs, do not shout and halloo when a prisoner is convicted. I am afraid that this was, after all, a party attack, like those upon Stansfeld and Robert Lowe; but, whatever it was, it has been successful. The great Minister has fallen, perhaps deservedly; but this impartial history will have to decide. Meanwhile, I cannot but grieve (and hundreds sympathise with me) over his fall; and I suspect, though I will not prophesy, that when all passion and party feeling, if there have been any, shall have passed away, many more will think that the great lawyer has been hardly used. Perhaps, though, I may not be an impartial judge; perhaps my admiration of his wonderful abilities may have blinded me to his faults. That wild howl of triumph, though, to which I have alluded, renewed again and again, must have been to all right-minded men inexpressibly disgusting. We are accustomed to say very strong things about the mobs which roar with mad delight when some wretched murderer has the life choked out of him at Newgate. Lord Henry Lennox, you will remember, very eloquently expressed his horror and disgust at what he heard and saw at the execution of Müller. But is there much difference, my good Lord, between the howl of a mob when a murderer is executed and that wild shouting over the fall of a Lord Chancellor? Grant that he was guilty and ought to be removed, it seemeth to me that this was, even to his assailants, more a cause for sorrow than delight. Taking into account the fact that the House of Commons is an assembly of gentlemen, the scene in the house, when the result of the division was announced, was more surprising than that which the noble Lord saw in the front of Newgate. Jack Stokes, the costermonger, shouts over the fall of murderers; Lord Thingamob shouts over the fall of a great Minister of State. Where is the difference between the two? It surely is infinitesimally small; nay, I think that the conduct of my Lord is, on the whole, worse than that of Jack.

I paid a visit the other day to the establishment of Messrs. Marion, in Soho-square, and inspected their very large display of photographs from works of art. Their photographs from the Turner pictures are curiously successful, for one would have set them down as very unlikely subjects to take well. They are of course from the pictures, not from engravings of them, and the way in which the tone and feeling are preserved is most encouraging for the future of the art. Some of those exhibited were coloured; but, except in a few instances, I could have consented to do without that, for it is impossible to give any approach to the magnificent colouring of the originals. A collection of coloured photographs from modern English and foreign masters contains some very fine specimens of what the camera can do to replace the graver. You will be able to appreciate the varied selection when I tell you that among the artists whose works have been photographed are Hook, Stanfield, Linnell, Frith, Millaie, Ansell, Hunt, Maclell, Duncan, and Jutson, besides Frith, Ward, and Elmore. Of the foreigners I might make a still longer list—Delacroix, Lambrinet, Veret, Tissot, Cabanel, Scheffer, Flanrin, Meissonier, and the Chevalier Rosa Bonheur. Why Rubens and Raphael are included in this collection by Messrs. Marion's catalogue it is not easy to say, and so I will not attempt to decide whether they are to be considered as modern English or modern foreign masters. A most happy photograph, by Herbert Watkins, of the Grand Stand at Epsom at the moment of the start for the last Derby, is also to be seen at Messrs. Marion's; and there are some capital portraits of our favourite actresses—Mrs. Stirling, the captivating queen of the stage; Miss Kate Terry, Miss Herbert, Mrs. Hermann Vezin, Miss Fartado, Miss Lydia Thompson, and Miss Carlotta Leclerc; but, alas! not of Miss Nelly Moore as yet, though I hope the omission will be rectified ere long.

Before I drop the mention of photography, I may as well draw attention to the new process, rejoicing in the not very euphonious title of "Wothlytype." I have seen a capital likeness of Sothorn as Brother Sam, taken by this process, and like the tone much. It is very delicate and soft; and, without losing any of the resemblance, does not exaggerate shadows or lines in the face. But, if the new method is ever to be popular, some less startling title must be found for it. At present it sounds as if it were Lord Dundreary's last new riddle.

A strong feeling of dissatisfaction prevails among the employes of the British Museum, on a matter of considerable importance to them. Some time ago, a refreshment-room was opened in an underground apartment in the building; and, in order to induce the attendants and assistants to patronise the restaurant, Mr. Panizzi issued two orders—one, that the rule allowing an hour for dinner in summer should be rescinded, and half an hour only be given, as in winter; and the other, that none who lived at any distance were to be allowed to leave the premises at all during the day. Now, these are harsh and unnecessary interferences with the established usages of the institution, and inflict considerable hardship.

Why should only half an hour be allowed between nine in the morning and six in the evening, when no useful object is gained by the restriction? And why should the employes be compelled to dine in the refreshment-room if it would be more agreeable and more convenient for them to go either home or elsewhere? The result, it is said, is that the health of the officers of the museum is seriously affected, and that there has been more of them absent from illness since these new rules came into operation than for any similar period. I have, for several years, been in the habit of attending the reading-room of the museum, and can honestly say that a more intelligent, courteous, and obliging body of men could nowhere be found than the attendants there, and it really seems very unfair that their comfort and convenience should be interfered with for no apparent reason whatever save to please the caprice of the principal librarian.

A change has just taken place in the *personnelle* of the well-known publishing house of Routledge, Warne, and Routledge. The Messrs. Warne retire, and the business will in future be carried on under the firm of "George Routledge and Sons."

While on the subject of publishers, allow me to call attention to Messrs. Bell and Daldy's cheap quarto issue of Dr. Daniel Webster's "Dictionary of the English Language." Who would be without a copy of the best English dictionary when it can be had, printed so admirably as this edition is, for thirty shillings; and that, too, in the convenient form—to many—of monthly parts at two shillings and sixpence each?

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

### THE MAGAZINES.

The first thing that strikes one on looking over the magazines this month is the audacity of the people who keep on advertising Cod-liver Oil in such highly carbonic weather. Nobody advertises Iced Hock; nobody advertises "the noise of nightingales and the litter of rose-leaves." But there is more than enough of Patent Starch, and Bedding, and that odious Oil.

Passing from the covers and the advertisements to the real insides of the magazines, the subject-matter is still not of a cool and refreshing kind. What can be more heating than a general election? What can be more irritating than the general tendency, so strong just now, to write about Arabia and Jerusalem, and all manner of hot, stuffy places? The Holy Land is turning up everywhere! Nobody writes about the North Pole; and if you do hear about the Alps, it is, alas! that somebody has been scorched to death by lightning, and not that the rhododendrons look pretty above the snows. The general hotness and dustiness of the topics might almost excuse a man for simply saying, "The magazines are pretty good this month—but let's go and have a swim!" But Duty calls (she is always "calling"), and must be obeyed, and the magazines are on my table.

*Blackwood* is sure to be worth reading. "Miss Marjoribanks" and Cornelius O'Dowd would alone make it a desirable magazine. The article on Carlyle's "Frederick the Great" is sorely unworthy of the topic; it is not up to the level of ordinary talk. In the political articles we are not surprised, of course, to find Mr. Lowe and Mr. Horsman made much of. If such men would take themselves off to the other camp, bag and baggage, we should know better what we are about. They can be spared.

The *Cornhill* has an article of extraordinary merit, the "Poetry of Provincialisms." It is one of the few magazine articles which tempt the reader to wish he had it expanded into a book. But he cannot even feel this wish without feeling the danger of the thing; for the publishers, with their supposed "necessities," spoil half the books that are issued. It is probable that the author of this article would write a very good volume upon the subject, which would run to, perhaps, a couple of hundred pages, or not so much. But this is too small for a publisher, and he would consequently have to torture his natural design, and put in padding to swell out his book. The rest of the number is good; and "Wives and Daughters" is still, on the whole, the best story now going in the magazines.

*Macmillan* is a much better number than usual. Professor Bain on Mr. Grote's "Plato," Mazzini on "Caesarism," and Mr. Palgrave on "Women and the Fine Arts," are interesting papers. Mr. Palgrave is not an incisive writer, and he is wanting in force, but he is an eminently right-minded (straightforward) writer, and his appreciations are, it seems to us, just and true. Surely, however, the last four lines of Scott's "Maid of Neidpath," which he quotes,

The castle arch, whose hollow tone  
Returns each whisper spoken,  
Could scarcely catch the feeble moan  
Which told her heart was broken;

contains something very like a conceit—something too near a conceit for a situation of such pathos. Surely the same rule which excluded a whole verse of Hood's in the poem beginning

We watch'd her breathing through the night,

and quoted in the "Golden Treasury," would condemn the last verse of the "Maid of Neidpath."

*Temple Bar* makes an attempt to be cool, by inserting an article on "Country Lanes," only it is not a nice shady sort of paper.

The *Victoria* is a good number. The article on "Satire" is a thoughtful and suggestive one, but it is not fair to quote Mr. Carlyle as a satirist without also quoting his passionate disclaimer of "satire" as a devil's weapon. Indeed, we deny that Mr. Carlyle is a satirist in the sense, or in any modification of the sense, in which Juvenal or Thackeray may be called one. No man who began life purely ever wrote "satire" after eighteen or twenty.

*London Society* has the commencement of a new story, entitled "The Flirtations of Captain Cavendish," which promises to be interesting, though, judging by this first instalment, none of the characters appear to be of strongly-marked individuality, except, perhaps, young Harman and the Captain himself, who, however, we cannot help thinking, is an exaggeration. Men usually leave off poetry-spouting when above forty years of age, though they may still be given to flirring. The illustrations are still a leading feature of the periodical, though those of the present number might have been in some respects improved. That to the leading story—"The Flirtations"—is not pretty, but it is truthful, for it exactly realises the description of the Misses Brooks given in the text. The figures in "Firm and Faithful," drawn by Miss Ellen Edwards, are rather mamby-pamby in expression; and the accessories, or something very like them, I have seen a hundred times.

The *Art-Student* we are always glad to see, but we regret to observe the rise in the price. It is a curious thing that while medical men, and military men, and engineers, can make their literature interesting to a large general public, artists find a difficulty in doing so. What is the reason of this? Generally, one may observe that artists are poor hands at conveying information about their own work. There is a "graphotype" illustration, and an effective one, to the *Art-Student* for June; but the article, to which a note at the foot of the illustration refers the general reader, gives a very poor account of the matter.

In view of the general election, everyone who has said anything about reform and public affairs generally during the past seven years, or who now has anything to say, or thinks he has, is rushing into print, in prose and in verse, in book and in pamphlet. A plague of politics, say I. Here have I whole piles of books, pamphlets, addresses, letters, circulars, and litter of one sort and another, till I am pestered out of my quiet, lounging habits, and would have to move as mercifully as Mr. Charles Mathews in a bustling comedy in order to even glance at one half of what I am expected to read. I won't have it; that's flat; and so "Reason Rhymed by a Radical"—isn't the alliteration pretty?—"How the Representation may be Amended Safely, Gradually, and Efficiently," "Great Britain and Her Colonies," and a host of other things, I shall read "when the hurly-burly's done," and when I can judge of them with something like quiet and calmness. With that resolve I dismiss the whole question of politics and electioneering turmoil. How I pity those poor toiling candidates and electioneering agents this hot weather! I shall be off to some nook or other where it will be impossible to find me, if I can find such a place, and so escape the whole affair. Wouldn't you like to do the same, if you could?



## Literature.

*The Principles of Reform: Political and Legal.* By JOHN BOYD KINNEAR. Smith, Elder, and Co.

This work is one of the most valuable contributions to political science which we have seen for some time; although it is not likely that all Mr. Kinneare's sentiments will be accepted, or all his arguments acquiesced in, by any except what are called the most "advanced" Liberals, and the proposition which he sets forth of an educational test for the franchise will probably be repudiated even by that class who base their principle of extension on the mere fact of manhood, in the physical sense of the word. The gist of Mr. Kinneare's argument is, that as, on all great questions which rouse the mass of the people to take an active interest in public affairs, such questions are really decided neither by Parliament, the press, nor the present body of electors, but by the general public opinion of the country, there is no good reason why the people should not be intrusted directly with the control of the national affairs, both small and great. He further repudiates the notion that, were the working classes admitted to the exercise of the franchise, the result would be a system of legislation for the benefit of labour at the expense of other interests; for he maintains that there are as great diversities of opinion among the working as among other classes of the community, and that these diversities of opinion are sure to check any tendency to mere class legislation. To this doctrine some cogent objections may be taken; for we know, for instance, that the organisation of trades' unions has had the effect of destroying, or at least restraining, the exercise of individual opinion; and the means which have been employed to give unity of action in struggles between labour and capital might be brought to bear, and probably would be brought to bear, to promote lawmaking for the benefit of the class possessing the largest number of votes. Nor need we suppose that this would be done with a distinct and selfish purpose of benefiting one class at the cost of others; for working men may very possibly persuade themselves that in advancing what they deem their own interests they are advancing the interests of all. But the legislation they inspired would not be the less mischievous because of their sincerity and honesty of purpose. Past history proves this. The landed and agricultural classes in imposing the corn laws, when they had the control of the legislation of the country, imagined that while they were looking to their own advantage they were also conferring a boon upon the whole community, by securing our independence of foreign countries for supplies of the staple articles of sustenance. We know better than this now; but what is to prevent another class, if it should obtain a preponderance in Parliament, from committing a similar mistake? All the landowners of Great Britain were not in favour of the corn laws; but a majority of them were, and those laws were passed, to the serious detriment of the whole community, landowners and farmers included. All working men might not be in favour of a law to fix the respective shares of labour and capital in the profits of trade; but a majority sufficiently large to bear down all opposition might, and serious mischief would be the result, even to those who proposed and passed the law.

Mr. Kinneare himself seems to have a secret consciousness of this, else why should he abandon the broad principles of manhood and citizenship, and propose any test whatever, educational or otherwise? Having come to the conclusion of having a test, our author fixes upon that of education, and proceeds to develop his theory at considerable length and with much ability. As the result of Mr. Kinneare's reasoning is embodied in the fourteenth section of the draught reform bill given in the appendix, we shall lay the clause before our readers, merely adding a remark which occurs to us, not as to the principle, but as to the wording, of the section. The clause in question provides that

The examination shall consist in the reading aloud, by the person under examination, of a passage, of not fewer than fifty words, pointed out to him by the Examiner in any book, not being the Bible, Book of Common Prayer, catechism, or articles of religious belief of any religious denomination; and in the writing of dictation of not fewer than ten words; and the examiner may require any further passage to be read, or words to be written, and may put any questions he may think proper to enable him to judge whether the person examined understands what he has read.

Now this, apparently, is a simple enough provision, and a sufficiently easy test; but might not a crotchety and pedantic examiner so construe the clause as to exclude all but a very small number of persons indeed? Of course, Mr. Kinneare means that the book from which the reading is to be done, and the language in which the writing is to be executed, shall be English; but he does not say so, and what is to prevent an examiner from putting a Latin, a Greek, a French, a German, or even an Arabic or a Sanscrit volume into the hand of a candidate for registration, and require him to read from that? This is, doubtless, an extreme supposition; but, when we remember the strange questions sometimes put to candidates for employment in the Civil Service, it is not an untenable one.

After explaining the theory and probable working of his education test, Mr. Kinneare proceeds to show that its adoption need not necessarily or suddenly swamp the existing voters. He says, at pages 29 and 30:—

Nor would the increase to the constituencies by this measure be so great at present as some may imagine. In England and Wales we now have, in round numbers, one million of electors and four millions of non-electors. But of the whole population the Registrar-General tells us that 25 per cent of the adult males cannot write their names, and of course this class is to be found almost entirely among the present non-electors, and therefore would deduct 1,250,000 from the number admissible. And if we add to the number thus disqualified those whom change of residence, or indifference, or age would prevent from registering themselves or presenting themselves for examination, and all those who, though they do not sign by a mark, would yet fail to come up to the test of intelligent reading and writing, we shall probably find that the remainder would be under a million, or a smaller number than many of the rental qualifications now talked of would admit; but with this difference, that while many uneducated men would be allowed by any lowering of the franchise, none could, in the nature of things, be admitted under a direct educational franchise.

The other chapters of the political division of Mr. Kinneare's work treat of "Foreign Policy," "Reduction of Taxation," "Our Armaments from 1865 to 1866," "Modern Conditions of National Defence," and "Military System of Expenditure." Under his second division—Legal Reforms—our author deals with the "Simplification of Law," "Legal Reporting," "The Assimilation of Law," "The Marriage Laws of England and Scotland." Much valuable information and careful thinking are to be found throughout the whole work, which must be both instructive and interesting to every student of politics and political philosophy, whether he agree with Mr. Kinneare or not. No one, indeed, can read this book without deriving benefit, for the author is not only a clear thinker and an elegant writer, but he likewise possesses the rare faculty of suggesting trains of thought for the reader to pursue for himself. Such a writer cannot fail to exercise a large influence on public opinion, and we heartily commend his work to the careful study of all who wish thoroughly to understand the great leading questions of the day.

*A Vindication of the Marquis of Dalhousie's Indian Administration.* By Sir CHARLES JACKSON. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The final day for thoroughly summing up all about Lord Dalhousie, Sir Charles Jackson thinks, has not come yet; but, in the mean time, he generously steps in to rebut some of the many attacks which have been made against the lamented Governor-General's Administration. Sir Charles offers no history of the Administration. He passes over the Punjab and Pegu, for which no vindication can be necessary; nor does he mention those victories, no less renowned than those of war, which consist in railways, canals, electric telegraphs, and the anna postage. The chapters are mainly devoted to destroying the effect of various offensive passages in Mr. Kaye's "Sepoy War," Mr. Arnold's "Dalhousie Administration," and Major Bell's "Empire in India." Sir Charles Jackson certainly makes out a strong case for the confusion of these gentlemen, who, here and there, seem to deduce some rather rickety conclusions from some rather rickety "facts." And yet it must be admitted that Mr. Kaye, at all events, is an authority or "likely man" on his subject. Without going into the matter of the claims of the Prince Azem

Jah, fully exposed here, and which people do not seem to care about, despite the passionate appeals of grievance M.P.s, a more interesting matter will explain the purpose of the present volume. There is the annexation of Oude, for instance; the first notable incident in that matter is inexplicable—discreditable. In 1837, Lord Auckland proposed a new treaty with the King, and that was signed and accepted; but when referred home the Company declined to ratify it. This was, of course, officially communicated to Lord Auckland; who, however, did not inform the King of that important fact, but suffered him to go on imagining the treaty to be in force. And this the King went on believing to the last. This waste-paper treaty greatly strengthened our military share in the Government of Oude; and when affairs in Oude became unendurable, it was evident that British power must either be proved or laughed at. It became evident to Lord Dalhousie that diplomacy might answer our ends, and a certain black treaty remain uncalled in question; and so his Lordship submitted four courses to the Board of Directors. The Board deferred to the Cabinet, and the result was, in plain language, that Oude was to be annexed. "But," says Sir Charles, "their despatch of the 21st of November, 1855, is a specimen of the art of writing important instructions so as to avoid responsibility." This being the case, Lord Dalhousie thought it better for the general interest that he himself, although opposed to it, should carry the annexation into effect, rather than that it should be left to his successor, Lord Canning, then on his way to India. Sir Charles, to our thinking, has shown that this instance proves that Lord Dalhousie was not possessed of that dominant passion for annexation which has been imputed to him; that he was even opposed to the annexation of Oude; and that the responsibility of the act rested, not upon him, but with the British Cabinet and the Court of Directors. The friends of the late Marquis will be friends of this volume, which is a good specimen of what may be gathered and calmly said on one side of a subject, against astonishing enmity and small calumny already said on the other.

*The Two Worlds; or, Here and Hereafter.* An Epic in Five Books. By WILLIAM HOWELL, of the Bristol Grammar School. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

The title of this long epic explains that moralising may be expected. About ten thousand lines of blank verse are summed up in an argument greatly too long for our purpose; but the subject commences with an "Excursion of Thought into Ethereal Space," and in time we get on to Bible history and much preaching thereon. Mr. Howell, to judge from a somewhat imperfect inspection of his ten thousand lines, writes in a clear and temperate manner, utterly untainted by the many faults into which writers of religious verse too often fall. He has a singularly melodious command over blank verse, and this, with here and there a sparkle of excellent poetry, or just a flash of dry humour, makes his pages far lighter reading than might have been supposed. As a specimen, in no way taken maliciously, a few lines are subjoined for the edification of the ghost of Lord Monboddo, and Dr. Darwin in the flesh:—

If this be true,  
Then by the help of strict analysis  
Of antecedent histories; sustained,  
By wise, synthetic processes, we ought  
To prophesy about man's next developed form.  
Let us go back a step: Man's ancestor,  
Immediately we speak of man as man,  
The creature, not a specimen of such—  
Man's ancestor, we say—no; others say,  
A Monkey walked: how long, no record states;  
At length it introduces Man. How strange!  
For one—not in the mystery—would think  
That in this process it would disappear:  
But no, it lives; as if to disavow  
All anthropoidal claims. We're further told  
That, in derobing, monkeyism still  
Retained the candal limb: to meet the case,  
The law, that need ensured supply, must be  
At once reversed; he wants—no tail; when, lo!  
No tail appears. But some one else asserts  
That this was through effect mechanical:  
This verberate continuance, says he,  
Through sitting disappeared. These learned men!  
How gravely they resolve such points abstruse!  
Who is not pleased with such hypothesis  
Of his own origin? A jelly germ!  
And is not this far better than red earth,  
To claim our common source of being from?

*The Boy Crusaders: A Tale of the Days of St. Louis.* By J. G. EDGAR. With Illustrations by R. Dudley, Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

"The Boy Crusaders" is one of that admirable series of historical romances in which the late Mr. Edgar sought to portray the men, the women, and the manners of those chivalrous days which he loved so well, and in studying which he spent nearly all his time. We have already, on more than one occasion, had occasion to speak of the success which attended Mr. Edgar in the performance of the task which he had set himself; and the present work is not the least happy of his efforts. The author's idea was to illustrate history by a story, all the persons in which exhibit the characters, entertain the sentiments, speak the language, wear the dresses, and portray the manners peculiar to the period of which the several tales are told. Mr. Edgar's long and careful study of mediæval history thoroughly fitted him for the work he had in hand; and it is not surprising, when we add great literary skill and a large dash in his own nature of the chivalrous characteristics of the age he pictured, that he should have produced a series of books in the pages of which he again makes the men and women of other days speak and act as they did when they fretted their hour upon the stage of life. Though the superstructure of these books is romance, the foundation is real history; and boys—for to the juvenile mind Mr. Edgar specially addressed himself—will be infinitely better able to appreciate and understand more regular historical works after a perusal of our author's interesting stories. In the present story—which we believe has run through more than one edition, though we have not happened to see it before—Mr. Edgar relates the adventures of two striplings, who, after serving their apprenticeship to chivalry in a feudal castle in the north of England, assumed the cross, embarked for the East, took part in the crusade headed by the ninth Louis of France (St. Louis), and participated in the glory and the disasters which attended the expedition after arriving at Damietta, including the carnage of Mansourah and the massacre of Minieh. Mr. Edgar's main object, however, has been to give as clear an idea as possible of the career and character of the Saint-King as these are to be found in the pages of the chronicler of the crusade, the "Sire Joinville," as he styles himself. We need hardly add that the story is well told, the interest sustained throughout, and the style elegant and appropriate; for these are features which distinguish all Mr. Edgar's books. Mr. Dudley's illustrations, though not altogether faultless, add much to the beauty and value of the volume, which, with the author's companion works, we recommend all our young friends to read.

*Hardy Ferns: How I Collected and Cultivated Them.* By NONA BELLAIRS. With a Frontispiece. Smith, Elder, and Co.

This is a handsome little volume which will teach people how to know, collect, and cultivate ferns in the best of all ways—by the force of example. It is also a book of travels, and abounds with sensible and poetic reflection and allusion, and with much anecdote connected with the subject-matter. Every distinct species of British ferns, with many of their varieties, are mentioned in its pages, together with the localities where they were found, the conditions requisite for their well being, and the nature of the soil they like. Moreover, as a rule, the most popular botanical names have been used—a plan likely to be highly valuable to the fern collector when seeking information from the rustic mind. This interesting little manual seems to contain all necessary to be known to those who will take the trouble to keep our windows fresh, green, bright, and interesting.

*Ida Clifford; or, the Voice of God in a Dream.* By ARTHUR MONTGOMERY. G. Marlborough and Co.

Mr. Arthur Montgomery's name is new. So is his book. It stands alone, and everybody who turns over its pages must fervently hope that it may never have a compeer. It is written with the best intentions, truly, but with an amount of evident self-satisfaction which would be ludicrous if the whole affair were within anything like fair limits. But it makes a large and closely-printed volume, made up of commonplace piety and small humour which the writer, no doubt, thinks exquisite. Ida Clifford, the principal girl in the book, seems to be good enough for all purposes; but she has a couple of visions, feels that she has been a sinner, and manages to persuade some other people that they are sinners likewise—a fact, which everybody knows. Luckily, Ida dies miserably when the volume is half over; and, generally, the good people are rewarded by being taken out of the way of the immoral reader. De Morley Clifford, Ida's brother, makes a match with a mechanic's daughter in a manner so hasty as to be almost immoral. He offends his father, naturally; and, when his wife dies, goes to America and plays the same game over again. Ultimately, this fine specimen of an English gentleman of long decent comes off handsomely enough. The author praises Providence to an extent of cant which is inausferable, and praises himself very much more than that. Throughout he uses the language of the Saints who preach from barrels; but he makes himself and his characters talk grandiloquent language under the impression that it is irony. His people do not see things—they are not contented with less than "ocular demonstration." Clifford himself talks thus of a lady whom he has met once before:—"She came to visit us when we were in the deepest distress. She was an angel sent from heaven to minister to both our bodies and our souls; and never from the time she left our humble lodging to this moment has the fair image of that truly Christian woman been absent from my thoughts. I revere and honour her as a child of God, and as a sister in the Lord." Specimens of choice English are frequent enough. "I had no parents, or I should not have set their authority at defiance" is as good as "Prisoner, providence has given you health and strength, instead of which you go about the country stealing ducks." "Sir John, being many years younger than her, may argue carelessness rather than a faulty education;" and, surely, such little trifles are atoned for when midnight is described as "that solemn hour when sleeping nature is hushed to repose in the arms of a sovereign Omnipotence," &c. The reader of "Ida Clifford" cannot hope to be cleansed of the nonsense under a good dose of Fielding in the green fields.

*Doctor Mills's Marriage, and What Came of It.* 2 vols. Binns and Goodwin; E. Marlborough and Co.

In "Doctor Mills's Marriage" an anonymous writer, and, presumably, an amateur, has had the good taste or fortune to write a novel concerning Roman Catholics and Protestants without getting into a rage or insulting either party. The incidents spring from Ireland, and the author says, "this is no imaginary story. It is an 'over true tale.' It is one among innumerable instances of the misery arising from the occurrences of mixed marriages between persons of opposite religions in our Emerald Isle, and which may appear incredible to the inhabitants of the sister country." Dr. Mills, on his second marriage—this time with a Catholic and he himself being one—turns his two Protestant bred daughters out of doors because they object to renounce their religion and go to mass. This harsh step is jointly the result of his wife's commands and his own fatal habits of intemperance; but, as the senior Milles have nothing more to do with the story, their characteristics need be no more touched upon. The fortunes of Jane and Clara Milles, the daughters, occupy two stories, running side by side, and having an artistic meeting only at the end. Clara obtains the general command of a nobleman's little family. They are very good people, who do not spurn companions and governesses; and an incident at Brighton makes my Lord and Lady the firmest friends to Clara for life. Clara is saving two of the children from drowning and is drowning herself, when she is suddenly rescued by a gentleman who proves to be the most amiable of curates, and one who has known Clara in her own home. Ultimately the fortunes of these young people are made and united. Jane's fortunes take a different turn. She elopes with Captain Hubert Edward Oldfield, M.P., a gentleman who is already rich and sure to be more so. The captain is the soul of honour. He marries the girl fairly enough, but keeps it secret for all of the many reasons which people always have on clandestine occasions. He takes the greatest care of his wife, and is always going to proclaim her to the world, but always misses the proper opportunity, until delirium in a fever, assisted by a few other incidents, brings about the acknowledgment, and all ends happily. But the author wisely puts into the mouths of this young hero and heroine many and many a page of regret at the folly of their conduct. They might easily have done great wrong, and one was very desperately led into temptation and at best displayed moral cowardice of a humiliating kind. But the moralising on matters generally is of no obtrusive kind. The story is of an old but entertaining fashion, written in a kindly spirit, and with plenty of variety of character of a quiet stamp to answer warm-weather purposes of reading.

*Uncle Walter.* A Novel. By Mrs. TROLLOPE. Chapman and Hall.

The name of Trollope is now a household word with readers of English literature, two worthy sons—Anthony and Adolphus—having contributed to make famous the patronymic on which their mother's talent first conferred distinction. Who has not read Mrs. Trollope's genial and amusing stories? and who will not be glad to renew acquaintance with them through the medium of Messrs. Chapman and Hall's cheap and elegant Select Library? Here we have an old friend, "Uncle Walter;" and we suppose others of Mrs. Trollope's tales will appear in due course. A great boon to the reading world this—439 pages of clear, distinct print and most amusing reading for two shillings. Can the greediest lover of a "good pennyworth" wish for more?

## EDUCATIONAL BOOKS.

*Wayside Thoughts of an Asophrophilosopher.* No. 2. By D'Arcy W. Thompson. Edinburgh: Edmonstone and Douglas.

*Public and Middle-Class School Education.* By a Practical Man. Virtue Brothers.

*Le Petit Précepteur; or, First Step to French Conversation.* Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.

These three little pamphlets or books, widely dissimilar, naturally fall together because all cling more or less to the skirts of education. Mr. D'Arcy Thompson's "Wayside Thoughts" are clever enough, but scarcely original. In a few pages he says much in favour of donkeys, who have been more than once the theme of comic sentimentalists. More important is a running comment on "History," in which he argues, with some reason, in favour of the picturesque writers—Macaulay, for instance—and thinks that Plutarch, well-known shortcoming and all, should be made more of a school book. A little paper, "On Plagues," attacks very many of the modern clever and learned cliques and the "wispy-wispy religious periodicals." He prefers a cup of tea and an "unannotated passage of Holy Writ" to the "fumes of a sentimental pietism."

The "Practical Man" is somewhat too rhapsodical to be distinct, but his idea appears to be that, as middle-class people are doomed to middle-class occupation, their education had better be adapted accordingly. Most assuredly he knocks hard at the Universities, and boldly asks what do the great body of graduates and fellows ultimately get for their time and their expense. The "Practical Man's" notes are well worthy of study at a time when youngsters should begin to think of what they are going to do.

The "Petit Précepteur" is already in its thirty-first edition. It carries the conversational student from one world up to many, and must do much teaching by the time it is closed. But the large and comprehensive work of Mr. Ollendorff brings the "Précepteur" down to child's play.



## TOWING-HORSES.

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken is the work of M. Eugène Ginain, and has been one of the most successful in the Fine-Art Exhibition in Paris, not because of its attractive subject, but in consequence of the masterly treatment by which it is made interesting.

The uneven road, the steep, overhanging bank, the glimpse of the river on which the heavily-laden barge is supposed to be bearing slowly onward, the lowering and portentous sky, all help to concentrate the attention on that pair of grey horses, so wonderfully painted that one may almost see their starting sinews and hear the scurry of their struggling hoofs. Standing opposite this picture, the spectator feels a sort of trepidation steal over him as he watches the exertions of the off-side animal, whose uncertain footing on the edge of the slippery bank is only obviated by the strain of his companion and the perilous exertions of the driver. The pant, the quiver, the gathering up of every muscle for the final tug—the tension of the rope as it drags upon the yoke—every detail standing out clear and perfect against the dim background of sky, render the work one of the most remarkable amongst the examples of French art in this year's exhibition.

## "SAINT SEBASTIAN."

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken has caused no little sensation in the Parisian Exhibition, although it is difficult to define the opinions which critics have expressed on the performance. It would appear, indeed, that M. Ribot has, to a certain extent, founded his work upon previous studies in the school of Ribiera, of whom very distinct imitations may be discovered in the details of the picture; but in other respects, and in the general character of the painting, there is enough of individuality to stamp the St. Sebastian as a very remarkable work, well deserving all the eulogiums which have been bestowed upon it.

Its most striking characteristic is a certain realism which, discarding modern conventional treatment, renders the whole figure of the saint more startling than weak-nerved people can well be prepared for; the very wounds being depicted with an almost surgical study of natural effect, while the countenances of the two women who minister to the martyr are evidently intended to intensify rather than to mitigate the horror of the whole subject. The picture is a fine example of that vigorous and solid treatment which is inseparable from the great artist who devotes himself to paintings of this solemn description.

## CHERUB FOUNTAIN IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

It is not very long since we devoted some space to a description of the method of gathering and planting ferns, and yet since that time the collection of these interesting and beautiful plants has grown to be so frequent a source of recreation that in many houses the "Wardian" glass cases have been replaced by miniature ferneries, and these again by picturesque structures of rockwork around old tree-roots; while many ardent admirers of the graceful and varied sprays have erected large buildings where the light, the aspect, and the means of supplying moisture to the delicate shoots

have been carefully studied. Now, it is this very combination of fountain, rockwork, and shadow which gives to fern-growing half its interest; and we are, therefore, not at all surprised to find that one of the prettiest objects in the sculpture-room of the Exhibition of the Royal Academy is a spray fountain for ferns. This beautiful little figure, which is a model intended for imitation in bronze, is the



"TOWING-HORSES."—(AFTER THE PICTURE, BY M. EUGÈNE GINAIN, IN THE ART EXHIBITION, PARIS.)

work of Mr. J. Bell, and represents a cherub holding out two chubby hands filled with prim-roses, through which the tiny jets of water will spring in silver threads, in just such a shower as the delicate fern-leaves require to insure their growth and freshness. The figure, which is a work of high art worthily applied to a graceful use, will doubtless soon be copied scores of times in the more durable and less costly material, and these will then add a new charm to the orchid-houses or ferneries where they will be placed amidst the vivid contrasts of green and gold by which they will be surrounded.

## HENLEY-ON-THAMES ROYAL REGATTA.

THIS great aquatic meeting of gentlemen amateurs took place on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. On the first day the grand stand was thronged, as usual, by the gentry of the neighbourhood. The bridge was rendered almost impassable by the carriages of persons of condition, and the general assemblage of visitors was exceedingly large. The arrangement of the regatta by the stewards and their secretary, Mr. C. Towsey, was very good, and the convenience of rowing gentlemen and the company at large duly consulted. On the second day, although there was no wet when the crowded special train for Henley left Paddington at 11.30, it had rained heavily for some hours at Henley, and continued throughout the afternoon. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, the bridge was crowded with carriages, and there was a good show of company in the grand stand. The rowing throughout was of a very superior character, and some keenly-contested races took place. The scene on both days was animated and picturesque in the highest degree, especially on Wednesday, the rain on Thursday having somewhat damped the ardour of the spectators. Still, however, the meeting, on the whole, was a great success, and will no doubt help to maintain the public interest in this manly and invigorating sport.

The proceedings commenced with a race for a grand challenge cup for eight-oared boats. Three crews—the London Rowing Club, the Cambridge Trinity, and the Eton College—contested. There was a novelty exhibited by the London crew which attracted general attention; they rowed with new-fashioned oars, exceedingly short in the blade but 6 in. broad, with balanced handles. After a gallantly-contested race, the London crew won by half a length. The next race was for the diamond challenge sculls. The first heat lay between Messrs. E. B. Michell and J. Rickaby, both of Oxford. Mr. Michell won by several lengths. Messrs. Lawes and Redpath, both of Cambridge, rowed in the second heat. Mr. Lawes won by a short distance. For the stewards' challenge cup, for four-oared boats, two crews contested—the Cambridge Third Trinity and the Kingston Club. The race was splendid, being nearly bow and bow till near the close, when Cambridge took a slight lead, and won by over a length. For the gold challenge cup for fours, the London Rowing Club and the Cambridge Third Trinity contested. The London crew took their opponents' water, and won easily. For the town challenge cup, Henley Boat Club and Henley Grammar School rowed, and the club won by two lengths. For the silver



"ST. SEBASTIAN."—(AFTER THE PICTURE, BY M. RIBOT, IN THE ART-EXHIBITION, PARIS.)



goblet, pair of oars, the Eton Club crew rowed over in the first heat; in the second heat, the London, the Oxford, and the Cambridge crews contested: the London crew won by a couple of lengths. For the ladies' challenge plate, the pupils of Radley College rowed a capital race with the Third Trinity; but the latter, having more staying power, succeeded in winning by a length. On Thursday, the final heat for the grand challenge cup was decided in favour of the Kingston crew, which, after a fast race, beat the London crew by two lengths. The deciding heat for the ladies' challenge plate was awarded to the Cambridge Third Trinity on a foul with the Eton boat. The Wyfold challenge cup was won by the Kingston crew, beating the London Rowing Club by two lengths. The stewards challenge cup was won by the Cambridge Third Trinity, beating the London Rowing Club by half a length, after the quickest race of four oars ever known on the course. The sculling for the diamond sculls resulted in the victory of Mr. Michell, of Oxford, by three lengths. The silver goblets were won by Jenner and May, of London; and the watermen's race by H. Cole's crew.

#### THE FRENCH COURT OF THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.

THE space allotted to French exhibitors includes the splendid semicircular apse, which forms the continuation of the entrance hall and the western side of the transept leading to the British department. Most prominent amongst those who have contributed to the Exhibition from France is the Emperor himself, who evinced the liveliest interest in its success. His Majesty is himself one of the largest exhibitors, and the imposing stands which occupy the central portion of the apse prove the extent and importance of the Imperial factories. A high wooden screen divides the space, and upon it are hung some of the most exquisite specimens of Gobelins tapestry which have ever been manufactured. These are the first and the most attractive objects which catch the eye as one emerges from the statuary hall. At first sight they would almost be taken for paintings, so high is the art and so elaborate the workmanship. One of the best subjects is mythological, and represents Venus emerging from the sea, attended by a number of cupids. Most wonderful in this instance is the glowing light which pervades the picture, the purity of the flesh tints, and the fine effect of atmosphere and distance. Two other pieces of work are exhibited, which are quite as attractive in their way. Every one is aware that in France the State for centuries back has supported the factory from which these costly tapestries are derived. The expense has been enormous, but the result is quite satisfactory. The factory is a school of chemistry and design applied to dyeing, and requiring the constant direction of artistic taste, not only in the purification of the wool, but in the application of colours. The workmen have reached the highest eminence, and the influence of a system of art-education such as this naturally radiates over the whole country, and preserves the leading position which it has always held in those branches of industry which demand remarkable skill and minute attention.

The building called the Gobelins is situated in a quarter of Paris celebrated in the annals of the first Revolution as the Faubourg St. Marceau. Through this district flows, or rather used to flow,

for it is now inclosed in a canal of stone and shut up by sluices, the small river Bievre, which in former times enjoyed a reputation for dyeing scarlets which it certainly does not now deserve,

will be found a fine collection of musical instruments, of which the best are sent from the establishments of Alexandre and Herz, both of Paris. Thierry competes with English manufac-

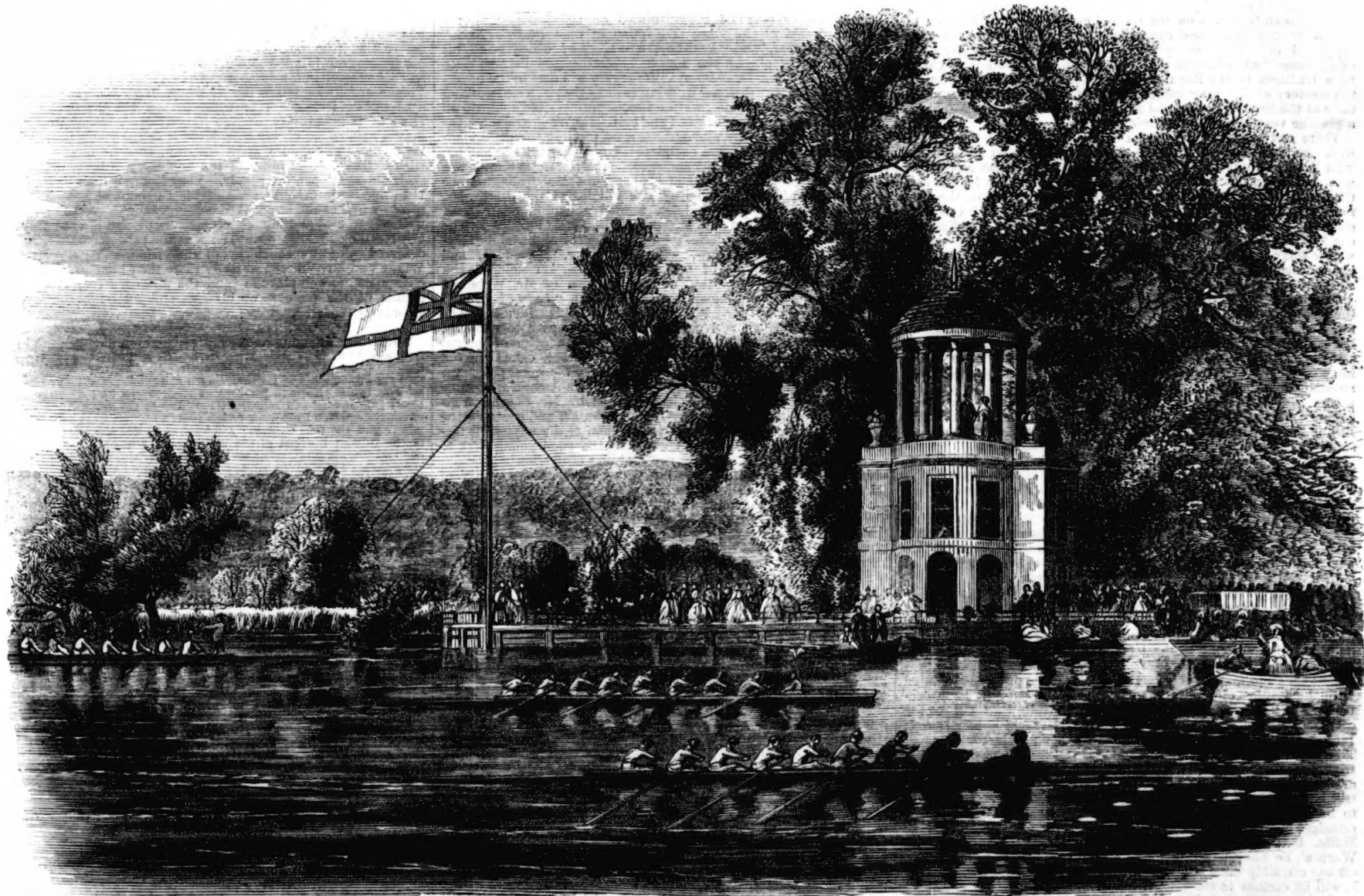
being generally considered a nuisance at present from the exhalations of its stagnant water. This traditional reputation, however, brought to its banks a family of dyers from Rheims, the chief of whom was Jean Gobelins. This was about the end of the fifteenth century, for Jean and his son Philibert lived there in the time of Rabelais, who says, "and it is this brook which from here passes to St. Victor on which Gobelins dyes the scarlet." Gradually their descendants became wealthy, and at length renounced trade, purchased patents of nobility, and intermarried with the families of the magistracy. One of these, Antoine Gobelins, Marquis de Brinville, married, in 1651, Marie Marguerite d'Aubral, daughter of the Civil Lieutenant of Paris, who became so notorious afterwards in the annals of crime by the poisoning of the whole family. When the Gobelins retired from business they sold their establishment to the Sieurs Canaye, who, in addition to the trade of dyeing, set up a manufactory of tapestry of *haute lisse*, or high warp. At that time Flanders was celebrated for its tapestry, which was exported to different countries, one of the chief seats of which at one time was Andernaerde. To the family of Canaye succeeded a dyer of the name of Gluck, whose family continued in possession until the time of Colbert, Minister of Louis XIV., who purchased the house properly called the Gobelins; whilst the family of Gluck, in conjunction with another, named Julienne, carried on the trade of dyer in the adjoining buildings down to the commencement of the present century. It will be seen that the manufacture of tapestry was at first altogether carried on by private enterprise, and continued to be so until the reign of Francis I. That Monarch, to whom France owes so much in an artistic point of view, brought together the best workmen in tapestry to be found at that time in France, in Italy, or in Flanders, the countries where the trade was best understood, and established them at Fontainebleau, under the direction of one Salomandi Herbaines. Here he provided them with abundance of the richest materials, such as gold, silver, and silk threads, and a number of admirable pieces were executed after designs by an Italian artist named Francisco Primaticcio, a pupil of Giulio Romano. The success of King Francis continued to encourage the factory, and it reached its period of highest prosperity in the reign of the Grand Monarch, under the management of the celebrated painter Le Brun. The Revolution closed it for a season, but it was reopened by the first Napoleon. Again the manufacture fell into decay, but it was revived by the late Louis Philippe, and in the present day it is liberally patronised by the Imperial Government, a fact which is best proved by the rare beauty of the tapestries now exhibited.

The Emperor's contribution also includes magnificent specimens of modern Sevres china from the Imperial factory. These are for the most part vases, and not only show the finest quality of china, but the most elegant designs and harmonious combination of colours.

Leaving the Imperial contribution, one may stand long enough in silent admiration before the tapestries of Carbbian and Carbiere, the rich damasks of Lafond and Dupont, and the laces of Delcambre and Dognin. In the earlier sections



CHERUB SPRAY FOUNTAIN, IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—(JOHN BELL, SCULPTOR)



HENLEY-ON-THAMES REGATTA.



turers in cotton and chintzes. Duche, Briere, and Co. distance all rivalry in French cashmere shawls, which display an elegant diversity of colours and patterns. Eight of the most celebrated silk manufacturers of France contribute to the exhibition. Bennet and Schultz, of Lyons; and Berteaux, Radon, and Co., of Paris, show the most delicate and graceful fabrics into which silk can be woven. Four stands are occupied by linens and embroideries of the very finest description; and the most interesting of these is that occupied by H. Guynet and Co., Paris and Belfast. The display of mixed fabrics, such as shawls and tissues, could only be produced in France. The preparation of leather and skins in all its finer processes is illustrated by Cheilley, of Paris. Having examined all the finer fabrics by the loom in their most charming variety of colour and texture, the visitor may turn to the specimens of working in metals, and see fresh proof of the ingenuity and artistic feeling which are the peculiar characteristics of French products. A very wonderful display of bronzes surrounds the wall. Figures of every size and form, graceful statuettes, splendid candelabra and lamps, form the collection which bears the name of the noted firm of Barbidiene, of Paris. Barberat, of Val d'Osne, enters another branch of metal-work. He shows cast-iron statues and vases, and he has erected two large fountains in the pleasure-grounds. Carhain and Carbiere, of London, are again represented by clocks, lamps, and bronzes. Sutton and Charbonne show what are termed compo-bronze statuettes, which are as remarkable for beauty of design as for the perfection of the casting. A superb collection of jewellery is sent in by Mr. Muller, which will illustrate very admirably the prevailing styles of personal ornaments beyond the Channel. A unique display of fancy furniture is made by Gerson and Webber, of Paris, whose carvings in wood and elegant upholstery deserve more than a cursory inspection. It is in these departments of work that we need to learn a lesson from France; and, if international exhibitions had done no other good than to compel us to acknowledge our inferiority to Continental manufacturers in the production of those articles which require style and grace, they have certainly performed a service which deserves the warmest gratitude and has already been attended by very useful results. Passing by the alabaster garniture of Villerme, the wax candles from Marseilles, the variety of miscellaneous articles which fill the gallery of the apse, it is only necessary to remark that the number of French exhibitors is about a hundred, and their productions are not limited to the classes of work already mentioned, but extend through the different sections allotted to pharmaceutical preparations, wines, liqueurs, and alimentary produce.

#### OPERA.—THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

NOTWITHSTANDING a rumour that, on Monday, a supplementary performance would be given, the Handel Festival came to an end on the day originally fixed for its termination. It began in sunshine and ended in storm; and whereas some twenty or twenty-five thousand persons attended the festival on the first two days (and we believe there were nearly as many present at the rehearsal), the audience on the closing day had—thanks to the rain— dwindled down to 15,000. Nevertheless, the performance of "Israel in Egypt," on the Friday, was in many respects the finest of the three. The execution of the magnificent choruses in which this work abounds was especially remarkable; and it seemed that the Handel Festival choir had just learned to do its work to perfection when the time for its dispersion had arrived.

The centenary performance of 1859 was so successful that it was determined to repeat it every three years. Now, however, we are told that it is uncertain whether the Handel Festival will ever take place again. The attendance this year has been enormous; but, somehow or other, the profits have not been great. If the services of the chorus had to be paid for it would, no doubt, be impossible to get up a "Handel Festival" at all; for think what the salaries of 3500 vocalists, for only one week, would amount to! Then there would be the travelling expenses of the provincial contingent to superadd—for only about 1400 out of the 3500 belong to London. We should like to see the budget of the Handel Festival published, and if there is really to be any difficulty about getting up the festival of 1888, the directors would do well to lay it before the world, with a view to receiving subscriptions. Allow subscribers to call themselves patrons, sub-patrons, vice-patrons, or by any other name that they may fancy, and after a little judicious agitation in the press, it would be easy, we think, to collect a very respectable sum to start with.

It is rather strange, by-the-way, that no Court patronage of any kind has been bestowed on the Handel Festival. A celebration of such a thoroughly national character ought certainly to have been supported in the highest quarters. Handel was not neglected in this manner "when George the Third was King;" and it ought to be a tradition in the Royal family of England to show respect for the memory of that great composer, who did so much to elevate the taste of the English public, and who has inspired Englishmen with a genuine veneration for his music.

There has been nothing new this week at either of the Operas, with the exception of Mdlle. Galetti's appearance as Leonora, in "La Favorita." It now appears probable enough that Norma, as was said when Mdlle. Galetti sang in that character for the first time in England, is, altogether, her best part. Her sentimental reading of the character is interesting enough, and she certainly sings the music in a very touching manner. But even in "Norma" she fails to enlist the sympathies of the public. In "La Favorita," we are sorry to say, she is little better than a failure. Mdlle. Isabella Galetti has been, and in some respects is still, a great artist; but she comes to us too late.

Signor Brignoli, who appeared as Fernando, reserved himself for the last act, which is worth more than all the rest of the opera put together. He sang the lively air, "Spirito gentil," to perfection; but is so poor an actor that he failed altogether to distinguish himself in the highly dramatic duet which brings the opera to a termination. However, until the last act, he scarcely sang at all; and nothing could have been more inane than both his singing and his acting in the finale to act III., in which Mario always produced so much effect. The sleepy, half-astonished air with which Signor Brignoli went through the whole business of this sufficiently striking scene (when it is at all well acted) was most remarkable.

Even Graziani, as Alphonso, was, the night we heard him (Tuesday), by no means up to his usual mark. If the baritone in "La Favorita" cannot produce a "sensation" by his singing of the popular romance "Pour tant d'amour" he can do nothing. Graziani, in spite of his thoroughly beautiful voice, sang it without making the slightest impression upon the audience. Second-rate baritones often got encoired in this air; but Graziani, who is not a second-rate baritone, did not even get applauded. We have heard the last of "La Favorita," we expect, at least until next year.

The last performance at the Royal Italian Opera will take place, it is reported, on the 29th of this month, and that, in the mean while, great progress is being made with the rehearsals of "L'Africaine," the first representation of which (probably on the 18th) will mark the "beginning of the end." About five representations of "L'Africaine" may be expected this season—quite enough to make a very large portion of the public acquainted with the beauties of the work, without at all destroying its attractiveness as a "novelty" for next year. The following will be the cast at Mr. Gye's establishment:—Selika, Mdlle. Pauline Lucca; Ines, Mdlle. Fioretti; Vasco di Gama, Wachtel; Nelusco, Graziani. This is perhaps, in some respects, an improvement upon the Paris distribution of characters. Mdlle. Lucca will be admirable in the highly-dramatic part of Selika, the so-called Africaine; and Mdlle. Fioretti will be incomparable in the less important one of Ines. It remains to be seen whether Mdlle. Lucca will eclipse Mdlle. Saxe in the principal character, but it is certain that Mdlle. Fioretti will sing Mdlle. Battu's music better than Mdlle. Battu. As for Herr Wachtel, he has a fine voice; but if nature has done a little more, art has certainly done much less, for him than for Signor Nandin. It will be curious to see what Graziani will make of the strongly-marked personage of Nelusco, the quaint and savage adorer of

the African Queen. He will no doubt sing the music to perfection, from his own Italian point of view, but he has neither the *verve* nor the dramatic intelligence requisite for giving it the true Madagascar character as indicated by M. Faure. M. Faure, it may be said, has never been to Madagascar; but neither have we. All we mean is that a certain touch of colour, which must, of course, pass for Madagascar colour, is imparted to the Madagascar barbarian by M. Faure, and that we are afraid Signor Graziani will make a more or less civilised Italian of him.

As to the ship to which so much importance was attached in Paris, the musical critic of the *Athenaeum* has told us that, at the Royal Italian Opera "it will be a probable ship, that it will comport itself nautically, and will get wrecked"—as if getting wrecked were a nautical proceeding! But though the ship will of necessity be introduced, we believe it will be made no great feature in the opera. A great deal of the choral music sung on shipboard has been cut out. So also has Nelusco's ballad, "Adamastor, roi des vagues," in the same act; though, as given by M. Faure, it was one of the most effective pieces in the work.

These excisions are to be regretted. But it was absolutely necessary to reduce by one hour the five hours of music and *entr'actes* to which the public of Paris willingly submit. Mr. Costa might have taken the time throughout the opera one fourth too fast, and the hour too much would thus have been saved. "L'Africaine" would have been played in London not for note as Meyerbeer wrote it, though not precisely as Meyerbeer conceived it. Seriously, there was nothing to do but to cut down the vessel from a three-decker to a frigate, so that less time might be occupied in launching it, and to leave out one or two of the pieces of music.

At Her Majesty's Theatre rehearsals are also the order of the day. On Thursday "The Magic Flute" was to have been produced. "The Marriage of Figaro" is in preparation, and between "The Magic Flute" and "The Marriage of Figaro" we are promised "Ernani." The long-talked-of "Tannhauser" is also formally announced. Mr. Mapleson will have enough to do if he is really determined that all these works shall be brought out during the present season.

#### THE THEATRICAL LOUNCER.

On Thursday, the 29th of last month, Mr. Toole took his annual benefit at the ADELPHI. The Prince of Wales—who may be regarded as Mr. Toole's permanent patron—secured the Royal box, but was not able to attend. The house was crowded. After Mr. Maddison Morton's farce of "Mother and Child are Doing Well," which is a somewhat mild piece with a very objectionable title, and incidents infinitely too obtrusive, the curtain rose on a new drama by Mr. Walter Gordon, called "Through Fire and Water." The hero of the piece is one Joe Bright, a fireman, who, fifteen or sixteen years before the rising of the curtain, is supposed to have saved an infant from a burning house. This infant grows up to be a lovely girl, and Joe, who is as impressive as he is brave, falls in love with her. The passion is mutual, but Joe, who is stupid, will not see how strongly the young lady wishes for an avowal of his attachment. Upon the very slightest ground he suspects her of harbouring a feeling for a Mr. Kit Coventry, a poor musician, who hovers round Joe Bright's cottage for the sake of the sweet face of Joe Bright's sister. A loathing fellow, named Mike Biddles, who has returned from Australia, has a clue to the parentage of the orphan Ruth, who is an heiress, and, in concert with one Mr. Philip Dashwood, endeavours to lure Joe to dissipation and to cause Ruth to renounce the love of her life in favour of Dashwood. On the one side is Joe Bright and virtue; on the other, Dashwood and guilt; and as, at the Theatre, at least, the good invariably triumphs over the bad, the poor over the rich, the plebeian over the patrician, the simple over the designing—so, in the new drama, Joe the fireman triumphs over his aristocratic antagonist, is plighted to the heiress, and, as on the stage prospective matrimony is invariably contagious, Kit Coventry prevails upon Honor to say yes to his matrimonial proposal. It then turns out that Kit and Ruth are brother and sister, so that a brother and sister are in love with a sister and brother, and the curtain falls on a very rejoicing, united, and uniting family. "Through Fire and Water" is entirely original. Mr. Walter Gordon has not been indebted to a Parisian author for the smallest detail of a well-conceived interesting plot. Half of the dialogue in the first act might be omitted with advantage. In the second act, which is much more cleverly constructed than its predecessor, there is not an unnecessary line; and the author may be congratulated on the production of a domestic drama of the same description as the "Porter's Knot," "Chimney Corner," and "Post-boy," the merit of which is all his own. Mr. Toole played the rough, honest-hearted fireman with great effect; indeed, he is always thoroughly at home in the impersonation of what is called a "working man"—that is, a real working man, with his vices, virtues, weaknesses, absurdity, and nobility, all mingled in a tangled yarn of good and evil. Miss Woolgar, who is the best actress upon our stage, played the shrewd, bustling, energetic, kind-hearted sister, with her usual complete mastery over the sympathies, risible and sentimental, of her audience. Miss Henrietta Simms was the sweetest and most graceful of orphans, and Mr. Billington the most devoted of poor musicians. The villains of the drama, Mr. Dashwood and Mr. Mike Biddles, formed a capital contrast of scoundrelism as played by Messrs. Ashley and Phillips. The audience were highly ecstatic, even for a benefit-night, and everybody, including the author, was called for, applauded, and *bouqueted*. The farce of "The Steeplechase" concluded the performances. On Saturday, on the occasion of Mr. Webster's benefit, Miss Bateman again appeared in the "Lady of Lyons," and after the play Mr. Webster addressed his friends. The address was rather an odd one; but I have not space to quote it. On Monday Mr. John E. Owens, an American actor of repute, made his appearance in a comic drama in one act, called "Solon Shingle." The piece is literally and positively the worst piece ever seen. The incidents are supposed to occur in an American country town. A bad young man, a clerk—played by Mr. Eburne in his most volatile and playful manner—steals a watch, and confesses the robbery to a fellow-clerk, a good young man of the impossible teetotal pattern. The bad young clerk asks the good young clerk to keep the watch for him, and to write for him a confession of his guilt, watch, chain, and all. The good young clerk, whose purity of principle is only equalled by his imbecility of mind, consents. The constables arrive, and finding the missing property—I believe that is the accepted form of expression—and the confession in the pocket of the good young clerk, arrest him and, despite his protestations, carry him off to gaol. He appears in a court—a County Court, or a Divorce Court, or the Court of Chancery, I know not which; for the legal customs of America, according to the author of "Solon Shingle," are loose as are its prairies, wild as are its buffaloes—and is tried by a jury of his peers; and everything—evidence, witnesses, judge, jury, wind, tide, and popular feeling—is against him, when suddenly appears in court Mr. Robert Howard, the people's lawyer. He is a young man in an Epsom overcoat, and, from an eloquent aspect, looks creation, congress, judge, and jury into electric fits of steel-blue lightning. He makes the bad clerk ascend the witness-box a second time, and when he gets him there he calls him names, and tells him that it is wrong to be a perjurer, a liar, and a thief. Overcome by the reproof of the people's lawyer and by the sight of his Epsom coat, the bad young clerk confesses everything. The wicked people go off in custody and the good people remain to promise to marry each other in a confused sort of way; and the curtain falls. With all this Mr. Solon Shingle (the character personated by Mr. Owens) has nothing to do whatever. He is an old, eccentric Yankee farmer, of tremendous power of tongue, who tells rambling stories, addresses everybody he meets; looks into ledgers, peers into desks; and wants to know all about everything he sees, hears, feels, tastes, touches, and smells. He is a sort of Paul Pry, with a strong Yankee accent, and a habit of chewing tobacco, which, though equally honourable to his head and heart, would make his

presence unwelcome to any lady whose apartments were newly carpeted. Having to contest an action about a bridled cow, and wanting to find a "good cow lawyer," he has left his own location in search of that legal article, and while talking—his constant custom of an afternoon, morning, and night—a barrel of "apple-sauce" is stolen from his waggon. Believing that America itself, as well as those trifling little places, Europe, Asia, and Africa, are as deeply interested in the cow and apple-sauce cases as he is himself, he strolls into court, where he creates considerable diversion. Mr. Owens is a very clever actor, with an admirable fund of humour, close observation of nature, and careful elaboration of his means. His acting is entirely free from trickiness, self-consciousness, and intentional effect; but it is to be regretted by his friends that his first appearance in England should have been marred by a piece so utterly destitute of merit.

The OLYMPIC drama of "The Serf" is neither new nor original. It is a compound of a German play called "Isidor and Olga," which, as I hear, was adapted from a German novel and a play with the same title produced at Covent Garden in 1828, and a more modern French drama entitled "Michel l'Esclave." It is a most interesting piece, the interest throughout being of a harrowing, painful kind, such as is evoked by the sight of a clever picture on the subject of blood-hounds hunting down a slave. The "situations" are excellent, and of the collision of interests and emotions Mr. Tom Taylor has availed himself with the art of a practised dramatist. Ivan Khorvitch is a young Russian artist of high reputation resident in Paris. The niece of the diplomat who is about to visit St. Petersburg as the ambassador of France—the Countess de Maulcon, a young widow—honours him by sitting to him for her portrait. Ivan loves the Countess, and the passion is not only reciprocated but mutually avowed. At the opera a young Russian noble—Count Karateff—inflamed with wine, has intruded into the Countess's box, and Ivan comes to her rescue and ejects the Muscovite ruffian by the summary process of throwing him into the pit. Karateff sends a friend to Ivan, and Ivan accepts the challenge. Khor, an old serf, arrives from Sitovska with the news that his former master is dead, and that Count Karateff inherits the estates, consequently Khor and Ivan Khorvitch, his son, are bondsmen of the Count. It then transpires that the late owner of the estates of Sitovska, noticing Ivan's genius and superiority to his class, has given him an education, and in a letter written shortly before his death the old Lord has commanded him to return to Russia to claim his freedom. Karateff—to whom Legree was a philanthropist and Gesler a missionary of peace—takes exquisite vengeance. He degrades Ivan before the Countess, and Ivan, fearing that she will despise him when she knows his condition, submits to the degradation. In the second act the dramatis personae are conveyed to Southern Russia. The Countess is on a visit to the Princess Bariatinski, Count Karateff's aunt. She is still ignorant that Ivan is a slave, and Ivan does not know that Karateff is his master. The arrival of "the father of his children" is announced, and at the same moment the young artist discovers how completely, not only he, but his young and beautiful sister Acoulina and his aged father, are in the power of Karateff. The woman he loves is informed that he is a born serf, and before her eyes he is ordered to quit the habiliments of a gentleman and to assume the garments befitting his position. Khor, his reputed father, tempts him to head a rebellion of the serfs, which has been long prepared and only wants a leader. Mad with wounded love and half drunk with vodka, Ivan resists the commands of a ruffianly intendant who orders him to be tied up to the halberds. It is this portion of the drama, the conclusion of the second act, that our artist has chosen for the subject of the Illustration, which will be found on our front page. With all the refinement of feeling given him by habit, association, and education—with the triple refinement of artist, gentleman, and scholar—the unhappy serf, before the eyes of the woman who has acknowledged her love for him—of the sister he played with when a boy—of the father who has nurtured him, and the companions of his childhood—is strapped up to undergo the brutal punishment of the whip. The snow lies on the ground, and the roofs of the cabins of the wretched peasantry are white; the trees are leafless; and the desolate aspect of nature is in keeping with the cruelty of man. In the third act Khor informs his son how many barrels of gunpowder are stored beneath the tower, in which the guests of the Count—nobles all—are expected to assemble, and of the hour at which the torch is to be applied, and at night Ivan finds himself locked in the tower alone with the Countess. He makes her acquainted with the danger she is in, and believing that she is on the threshold of death, she avows that her love for the serf has been unchanged by his misfortunes. Khor appears to give the signal for destruction—the sound of the bell in the tower; a terrible struggle occurs between father and son. At all risks Ivan will save his love, and Khor receives his death from the pistol of Mistigris, a young French artist attached to the Embassy. With his dying breath Khor confesses his treason. Ivan is not his son, but the son of the late Lord of Sitovska. To avenge himself upon his master for that master's seduction of his wife, Khor stole the young patrician from his cradle and raised him as his own, that he might imbue him with hatred for the order of the nobility, and by his hand avenge their outrages upon the people. Thus Karateff loses the estate, and Ivan rejoices in the possession of his patrimonial honours and the hand as well as the heart of the Countess. "The Serf" is a very well constructed and interesting melodrama, and is admirably acted. Mr. Neville and Miss Kate Terry, as the hero and heroine, obtain a deserved call at the conclusion of the performance; and Mr. Horace Wigan and Mr. Vincent worthily share their honours. The minor characters are well played; and the mise-en-scène, grouping, and details of the piece have been carefully thought out, and are effectively rendered.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BEAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, a reward of £4 was voted to the crew of the institution's life-boat at Groomsport, for putting off during a heavy gale of wind and rescuing the master of the smack Agnes and Mary, of Glasgow, which had struck on the rocks off Groomsport very early on the morning of the 30th of May. A reward of £7 was also granted to the crew of the tubular life-boat of the institution, stationed at Rhyll, for going off and assisting, in conjunction with a steam-tug, to save from destruction the sloop Catherine, of Liverpool, and her crew of four men on the 11th ult. A reward of £12 was likewise granted to the crew of the life-boat belonging to the institution at Bude Haven, for putting off through a very heavy sea and saving the crew of four men from the schooner Johnson, of Exeter, which was wrecked while attempting to enter Bude Harbour on the 30th ult. The cost of this valuable life-boat station, amounting to £600, was defrayed by a benevolent gentleman in memory of his late mother. It was reported that the Van Kook life-boat of the institution at North Deal had gone off, in reply to signals of distress, with the view of rescuing the crew of the schooner George, which was found abandoned and sunk on the Goodwin Sands on the 2nd ult., but she could find no trace of the vessel's crew. Other rewards were also voted to the crew of shore-boats and others for saving life from shipwreck on the coasts of the United Kingdom. Payments amounting to £438 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. New life-boats and transporting-carriages had been sent during the past month to North Sunderland and to Whitby. Both boats were the gifts of benevolent persons to the institution. Colonel Fitzroy Clayton, of the Grenadier Guards, had recently delivered a lecture at Eastbourne, in aid of the objects of the institution. Messrs. Peacock and Buchanan's composition had again been used in painting the large fleet of life-boats of the institution. The Devon and Cornwall life-boat bazaar, which was to be held at Teignmouth on the 8th and 9th of the ensuing month, under the especial patronage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, was reported as likely to be a very grand and successful undertaking. Two benevolent ladies, who are unknown to each other, had expressed a wish to present to the institution the cost (£600) of two life-boats, the amount in each case being their housekeeping savings. A sailor's daughter had also sent the institution, through Messrs. Drummond the bankers, a further contribution of £100. Reports were read from Captain Ward, R.N., the inspector, and Captain Robertson, R.N., the assistant-inspector, of life-boats of the institution, on their recent visits of inspection of the society's life-boat stations on the Irish and Scotch coasts. They found, with few exceptions, all the life-boats in thorough working order. The institution has now 149 life-boat stations under its management, and during the past eighteen months it had contributed to the saving of upwards of 1000 lives from various shipwrecks on our coasts. The proceedings then closed.



distribution of the pictures. They were presented gratis, and were a source of trouble and inconvenience. Nor was

Only moderate quantities of bullion have come to hand. Bar silver has sold at 69½. Mexican dollars have produced 50½, per ounce.

The market for Foreign Securities has been very inactive. Greek and Spanish descriptions have ruled heavy, and prices have had a decided downward tendency. Otherwise, the quotations are without material change from last week. The scrip of the New Turkish Loan has sold at 31 to 2½ cts. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents have marked 61; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 91; Ditto, Deferred Three per Cents, 91; Ditto, Deferred Five per Cents, 91; Ditto, Deferred Six per Cents, 91; Ditto Compound 8½; Italian Five per Cents, 104, 61 ex div.; Ditto, 1865, 78; Mexican Three per Cents, 2½ ex div.; Moorish Silver per Cents, 98; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 1852, 78 ex div.; Portuguese Three per Cents, 47½ ex div.; Russian, 70 and 80 ex div.; Central American Five per Cents, 91; Ditto, 1861, 91; Ditto, Three per Cents, 48½ ex div.; Ditto, Deferred, 40; Ditto, Famine, 90; Ditto, Certificated, 14½; Turkish Old Six per Cents, 94; Ditto, 1858, 73½; Ditto, 1861, 7½ ex div.; Ditto, 1855, 47; Ditto, Four per Cents, 104; and Dutch Four per Cents, 104.

Domestic Bank Shares have ruled heavy, and in some instances prices have slightly declined. Agra and Masterman's have sold at 594; Allisive, 304; Australasia, 76; Bank of Egypt, 32; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 268; Chartered Mercantile of India, 268; Commercial Union, 268; Colonial Bank, 268; Colonial Bank of England Joint-stock, 124 ex div.; Cordier, Scotland, and Austro-Hungarian, 268.

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